



# **Activities in State Government Related to Youth and Families**

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*Activities in State Government Related to Youth and Families* provides a synopsis of in the Legislative, Executive and Judicial branches' initiatives in the following subject areas:

**GENERAL  
COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES  
CHILD WELFARE  
KINSHIP CARE, ADOPTION & FOSTER CARE  
CHILD CARE  
MENTAL HEALTH/INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES  
HEALTH  
SUBSTANCE ABUSE  
EDUCATION/SOCIAL SERVICES  
EDUCATION  
JUVENILE JUSTICE  
PUBLIC SAFETY  
REENTRY  
HUMAN SERVICES**

Updated throughout the study year

The Commission extends its appreciation to staff members in the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Branches who lend their invaluable assistance in providing information on an on-going basis.

Commission staff welcomes comments at any time and invites submission of updates or corrections.

## GENERAL

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Governor's Office	<p>In 2012 the Governor, via Executive Order No. 56, created the <a href="#"><u>Governor's Task Force on School and Campus Safety</u></a>. Local and state leaders in school or campus safety were asked to review procedures, plans, policies, and resources dedicated to the safety of students, faculty, and the public. Additionally, the Task Force was asked to review school safety at all levels, to identify gaps and critical resource needs at all levels and to formulate a plan.</p> <p>Task Force responsibilities include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate school safety audits that have already been conducted and identify best practices that schools or divisions have implemented that would be helpful to all and review any audit findings that have not been addressed;</li> <li>• Recommend improvements to K-12 school safety protocols and procedures to ensure an even safer learning environment;</li> <li>• Identify ways to improve and expand the use of School Resource Officers and School Security Officers in Virginia's public schools;</li> <li>• Recommend a mechanism for schools and localities to identify and share the best practices for improved school safety on an ongoing and continuing basis;</li> <li>• Suggest additional resources, programs, or tools that the Virginia Center for School Safety or the Department of Education could make available to Virginia's local school divisions and schools;</li> <li>• Identify any needed improvements to the school safety audit program to allow for better information gathering and sharing;</li> <li>• Recommend needed improvements to campus safety policies or procedures at Virginia's public and private colleges, community colleges, and universities;</li> <li>• Coordinate with the Mental Health Workgroup of the Task Force and review the workgroup's recommendations;</li> <li>• Examine current laws and regulations to identify gaps relating to school and campus safety, and provide timely recommendations for legislative or budget amendments;</li> <li>• Review the recommendations set forth in previous state and national reports and studies and provide strategies for implementation of relevant, realistic recommendations that would enhance school and campus safety.</li> </ul> <p>The Task Force is co-chaired by the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Public Safety, and the Secretary of Health and Human Resources. Membership includes legislative members, representatives from state agencies, law enforcement, other public safety professionals, public and private education leaders, health care leaders, and the private sector.</p> <p>The Task Force also has three workgroups (Public Safety, Mental Health, and Education), which are described in the sections below.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking; Public Safety Workgroup Member</p>	<p>Initial recommendations were presented to the Governor on or before January 31, 2013. Additional recommendations may be made on an ongoing basis, and a final report is to be presented to the Governor no later than June 30, 2013.</p> <p>More information, including meeting documents and initial recommendations presented to the Governor, can be found at <a href="http://www.governor.virginia.gov/SchoolAndCampusSafetyTaskforce/">http://www.governor.virginia.gov/SchoolAndCampusSafetyTaskforce/</a>.</p>
	<p><b>The Public Safety Workgroup</b> responsibilities include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewing School Safety audits</li> <li>• Identifying best practices</li> <li>• The concepts of SROs, SSOs, arming teachers, arming school personnel, focusing on internal school safety in two areas: K-12 and campus</li> <li>• Identify needed improvements to the various pieces in legislation – threat assessments, crisis management plans, audits</li> <li>• Campus policies or procedures</li> <li>• Examine current laws to identify gaps</li> <li>• Review recommendations in previous state and national reports and studies</li> <li>• Physical safety</li> <li>• Perimeter protection issues</li> <li>• Emergency notification issues</li> <li>• Training, drills, prevention, school safety programs; school safety for personnel; security strategies</li> </ul>	<p>The Public Safety workgroup first met on January 17, 2013.</p> <p>At its second meeting on January 24, the workgroup reviewed legislation that had been referred to it.</p> <p>It met again on January 29 and March 26 to review and discuss draft recommendations.</p> <p>On March 4, the Public Safety and Education workgroups held a joint meeting.</p>
	<p><b>The Mental Health Workgroup</b> is tasked with evaluating Virginia's mental health system to recommend improvements for identification, intervention, and treatment of behavioral and mental disabilities with a focus on ways to prevent acts of violence.</p> <p>This workgroup is co-chaired by the Secretary of Health and Human Resources and the Attorney General.</p>	<p>At its January 17, 2013 meeting, the workgroup heard presentations on mental health issues, mass shootings, and the relationship between the two. Initial ideas were discussed by the workgroup.</p> <p>On January 24 and March 28, the workgroup reviewed and discussed its recommendations.</p>

## GENERAL (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Governor's Task Force on School and Campus Safety (cont.)	<p>The <b>Education Workgroup</b> responsibilities include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate school safety audits that have already been conducted and identify best practices that schools or divisions have implemented that would be helpful to all and review any audit findings that have not been addressed.</li> <li>• Recommend improvements to K-12 school safety protocols and procedures to ensure an even safer learning environment</li> <li>• Identify ways to improve and expand the use of School Resource Officers and School Security Officers in Virginia's public schools</li> <li>• Recommend a mechanism for schools and localities to identify and share the best practices for improved school safety on an ongoing and continuing basis.</li> <li>• Suggest additional resources, programs, or tools that the Virginia Center for School Safety or the Department of Education could make available to Virginia's local school divisions and schools.</li> <li>• Recommend needed improvements to campus safety policies or procedures at Virginia's public and private colleges, community colleges, and universities.</li> <li>• Examine current laws and regulations to identify gaps relating to school and campus safety and provide timely recommendations for legislative or budget amendments.</li> <li>• Review the recommendations set forth in previous state and national reports and studies and provide strategies for implementation of relevant, realistic recommendations that would enhance school or campus safety.</li> </ul>	<p>The Education workgroup met first on January 17, 2013, to examine current laws, regulations and recommendations set forth in previous state and national reports and studies to identify gaps relating to school and campus safety to provide timely recommendations for legislative or budget amendments.</p> <p>The January 24 meeting focused on reviewing and findings from January 17, and finalizing input to the Task Force in the form of recommendations which require legislative action or budget amendments.</p> <p>On March 4, the Education and Public Safety workgroups held a joint meeting.</p>
Governor's Office	<p>The <b>Council on Virginia's Future</b> is established by Code as an advisory council in the executive branch. The purpose of the 18-member Council is to advise the Governor and General Assembly on the implementation of the Roadmap for Virginia's Future as part of the larger state budgeting process. The Council was enacted in 2003 to develop a vision and long-term goals for Virginia's future. It was also tasked with developing a performance leadership and accountability system for state government that aligns with and supports achievement of the vision.</p> <p>Its mandated purpose is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide a long-term focus on high-priority issues;</li> <li>• create an environment for improved policy and budget decision-making;</li> <li>• increase government accountability and transparency;</li> <li>• improve government performance; and</li> <li>• engage citizens in dialogue about Virginia's future.</li> </ul> <p>The Council regularly reviews progress on implementation of the Roadmap process and updates the Roadmap as needed.</p> <p>To facilitate assessment, it has developed as its premier initiative a performance leadership and accountability system whose most public face is its website <i>Virginia Performs</i>. This "scorecard" aligns agency-level outcomes with broader statewide goals for the Economy, Education, Health &amp; Family, Public Safety, Natural Resources, Transportation, Government &amp; Citizens. Three indicators have been recently added: energy, civic engagement, and government operations.</p> <p>There are eight legislative members, including the Senate President Pro Tempore, the House Speaker, the Senate and House Majority and Minority Leaders, and chairs of the money committees, and ten non-legislative members. Other Council members include Cabinet staff and leaders from the private sector. The Governor serves as chair.</p> <p>The Council is assisted by the Department of Planning and Budget, the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission, the Auditor of Public Accounts, and the money committees.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Council on Virginia's Future met most recently as a group in October 2011 to review recent accomplishments in state performance management and to explore challenges and opportunities for increased economic growth in Virginia.</p> <p>Council members are often invited to speak about the Council's work, including its signature performance leadership and accountability system.</p> <p>The Code requires the Council to submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an annual executive summary no later than the first day of each regular session of the General Assembly. The Council's 2012 <i>Virginia Report</i> is available at <a href="http://www.future.virginia.gov">http://www.future.virginia.gov</a>.</p> <p>The Virginia Performs website integrates access to all measures and allows users to quickly view the complete listing for each category. The Fall 2012 newsletter includes progress reported by the Department of Education on the Class of 2012 graduation rates.</p> <p>Individuals wishing to receive quarterly e-newsletters can sign up on the Council's website.</p>

## GENERAL (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Governor's Office	<p>The <b>Commission on Government Reform and Restructuring</b> was established in January 2010 by Executive Order 2 for the purpose of conducting a thorough review of Virginia state government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify opportunities for creating efficiencies in state government, including streamlining, consolidating, or eliminating redundant and unnecessary agency services, governing bodies, regulations and programs;</li> <li>• Explore innovative ways to deliver state services at the lowest cost and best value to Virginia taxpayers;</li> <li>• Seek out means to more effectively and efficiently perform core state functions, including potential privatization of government operations where appropriate, and restore focus on core mission oriented service; and</li> <li>• Examine ways for state government to be more transparent, user friendly and accountable to Virginia citizens.</li> </ul> <p>The Commission is comprised of eight legislative members and up to 20 citizen members representing finance, planning, business and government. The Secretaries of Administration and Finance, and the Council on Virginia's Future's Vice Chair, serve as ex officio, non-voting members.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Delegate Brink serves on the Commission.</p>	<p>The Commission's April 12, 2011 meeting included a ceremonial bill signing with Governor McDonnell.</p> <p>On August 31, 2011, the Commission heard progress reports on their 2010 initiatives and received work group reports from the Health &amp; Human Resources, Natural Resources, Administration/HR, Finance, and Commerce &amp; Trade.</p> <p>On November 14, 2011, the Commission took action on work group recommendations in anticipation of the 2012 General Assembly Session. There have been no meetings since that time.</p> <p>Meetings are streamed live to the public on the Governor's website and the Reform Commission's website  <a href="http://www.governor.virginia.gov">http://www.governor.virginia.gov</a> and <a href="http://www.reform.virginia.gov">www.reform.virginia.gov</a>, respectively.</p>
Office of the Attorney General	<p><b>Virginia Rules</b> provides a legal education program for middle and high school students. Its purpose is to educate young people about Virginia laws and help them develop skills needed to make sound decisions, avoid breaking laws, and become active citizens in their schools and communities.</p> <p>The initiative was previously an on-site training vehicle, but technology has led Virginia Rules to expand its purpose and outreach. Using a web format, Virginia Rules now offers on-line, self-directed training in a range of topics relevant to school administrators, parents, students and professionals working both in the field and in schools.</p> <p>From the website, instructors can access and download lessons with student worksheets, student topical handouts, and supplemental materials. Virginia Rules lessons have been correlated with Virginia Standards of Learning (SOLs). These can be used either as reference for developing local training or for addressing specific issues when situations in the field arise.</p> <p>A portion of the website is funded through federal and state grants.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>On-site training previously offered by the Department of Criminal Justice Services has been integrated into web resources on the Virginia Rules "Teens Learn and Live the Law" website— <a href="http://www.virginiarules.com">www.virginiarules.com</a>.</p> <p>Virginia Rules features 19 lessons designed for middle and high school students and this web site for use by students, parents, and Virginia Rules instructors. Instructors are able to access and download lessons with student worksheets, student topical handouts, and supplemental materials. As the website is developed, portals for students and parents and instructors will be expanded to point these users to information on the site developed just for them, and other off-site resources of interest. This resource will be updated in the near future.</p> <p>Instructors wishing to investigate training materials can access these resources through an Instructor Center.</p>
Virginia General Assembly	<p>The <b>Model General Assembly</b> (MGA) program is designed to introduce high school students to the legislative process of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Selected students represent their schools as executive officers, senators, delegates, legislative officers, pages, reporters and lobbyists while debating legislation in committees and on the floors of the House of Delegates and the Senate of Virginia.</p> <p>The program, which is co-sponsored by the Virginia YMCA, conveys the importance of citizen participation and public service, while introducing future leaders to Virginia's system of government.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Delegates Brink, Peace, and Crockett-Stark participated in the 2012 Session.</p>	<p>Over 200 students in grades 9-12 attended the March 29-31, 2012 Model General Assembly Session in Richmond.</p> <p>The 2013 MGA is scheduled for April 11-13.</p>

**GENERAL (continued)**

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Virginia General Assembly	<p>The <b>Capitol Classroom</b> provides on-line information about Virginia's government and legislative process for students in kindergarten through high school, with additional information for teachers. Using age-appropriate materials, the website provides a range of information which can be used in classrooms and/or independent study.</p> <p>The site also provides detail on Student Programs, including the Senate and House Pages Program, Boys State, Girls State, the Model General Assembly, and the America's Legislators Back to School Program. Back to School, which is a component of a civics education initiative of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), follows a national model and offers legislators educational materials geared for middle and high school students as tools for teaching.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Virginia ranked as #3 in the nation for the number of legislators informing students about the legislative process through the Back to School Program. Currently, participating legislators utilize state-of-the-art tools to teach middle and high school students. A new <i>You Rule</i> booklet and DVD informs young people that students can have a voice in the democratic system. Classrooms are able to join four students as they discover how, in American democracy, citizens really do rule and young people have a voice in the democratic process.</p> <p>The website can be accessed by clicking <i>Capitol Classroom</i> on the General Assembly website at <a href="http://legis.virginia.gov">http://legis.virginia.gov</a>.</p>

**COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES**

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Office of Comprehensive Services	<p>The <b>State Executive Council's</b> (SEC) purpose is to assure collaborative programmatic policy development, fiscal policy development and administrative oversight for the efficient and effective provision of child centered, family focused and community based services to eligible emotionally and behaviorally troubled children and their families in the least restrictive, appropriate environment.</p> <p>Further, the SEC assures that the Governor and Cabinet Secretaries are well-informed in matters related to these areas. Two members of the General Assembly serve on the Council.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The SEC is required by Code to biennially publish and disseminate to the General Assembly and Virginia's Community Policy and Management Teams (CPMTs) a biennial progress report on comprehensive services for children, youth and families and a plan for such services for the succeeding biennium. The current report, <i>Biennial Progress Report on Comprehensive Services to Children, Youth and Families - February 2012</i>, has been published as RD 102 (2012) and can be accessed on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website. The report is required in odd-numbered years, thus the next report is due in December 2013.</p> <p>Meetings, which are scheduled by the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, are held at least quarterly.</p> <p>March 21 agenda items included reports on the Services Gaps Survey and an update on SLAT. Members were briefed on 2013 General Assembly actions, training scheduled, OCS Audits, and the status of Data Integration and Analysis. Related to policy changes to Use of State Pool Funds for Community-based Behavioral Health Services, two workgroup charters were presented for action: CSA Service Names and Standardizing Levels of Care in TFC. A joint workgroup of representatives from SEC and SLAT will meet to develop recommendations for the proposed policy regarding the use of Medicaid state-pooled funding. Recommendations will be discussed at the April 30 SEC meeting.</p> <p>SEC is scheduled to meet again on April 30, June 20, September 19, and December 19. Meeting agendas and minutes are available at <a href="http://www.csa.virginia.gov">www.csa.virginia.gov</a>. SEC met for its first meeting of 2013 on March 14.</p>



**COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES** *(continued)*

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Office of Comprehensive Services	<p>The <b>State and Local Advisory Team</b> (SLAT) was established to better serve the needs of troubled and at-risk youth and their families by advising the State Executive Council (SEC), managing cooperative efforts at the state level, and providing support to community efforts. The team is appointed by and responsible to the SEC.</p> <p>The team includes one representative from the following Departments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health;</li> <li>• Juvenile Justice;</li> <li>• Behavioral Health and Developmental Services</li> <li>• Social Services;</li> <li>• Medical Assistance Services; and</li> <li>• Education.</li> </ul> <p>The team also includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A parent representative who is not an employee of any public or private program which serves children and families;</li> <li>• A representative of a private organization or association of providers for children's or family services;</li> <li>• A local Comprehensive Services Act coordinator or program manager;</li> <li>• A juvenile and domestic relations district court judge; and</li> <li>• One member from each of five different geographical areas of the Commonwealth and who serves on and is representative of the different participants of community policy and management teams.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>SLAT's first meeting of 2013 was held on February 7. At this meeting, SLAT heard public comment on and discussed as a group the proposed policy on Use of State Pool Funds for Medicaid Eligible Services.</p> <p>SLAT meets on the first Thursday of every other month. Meeting agendas and minutes are available at <a href="http://www.csa.virginia.gov">www.csa.virginia.gov</a>.</p>
Office of Comprehensive Services	<p><b>Intensive Care Coordination</b> Pursuant to § 2.2-2648 of the Code of Virginia, the State Executive Council (SEC) is required to oversee the development and implementation of mandatory uniform guidelines for intensive care coordination for children who are at risk of entering, or placed in, residential care through the CSA program.</p> <p>A more intensive form of case management—Intensive Care Coordination—has been designed to provide close support and community return for children placed in or at-risk of residential care through CSA.</p> <p>Item 283-C-3.d of the 2012-2014 Biennium required that, under the direction of the SEC, local Community Policy and Management Teams (CPMTs) and Community Services Boards (CSBs) work collaboratively in their service areas to develop a local plan for intensive care coordination (ICC) services that best meets the needs of the children and families.</p> <p>Local CPMTs and CSBs worked together to determine the most appropriate and cost-effective provider of ICC services for children in their community who are placed in, or at-risk of being placed in, residential care through the Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth and Families program, in accordance with guidelines developed by the SEC.</p> <p>The SEC and Office of Comprehensive Services established guidelines for reasonable rates for ICC services and provided training and technical assistance to CPMTs and fiscal agents regarding these services.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>ICC was implemented in three phases: Development of Guidelines; Implementation Workgroup; and Technical Assistance and Training. An Intensive Care Coordinators (ICC) Network was formed to assist localities with implementation of ICC. Tracking of the implementation status at each CSB and providing technical assistance is on-going.</p> <p>After the ICC Guidelines were developed and adopted, an Implementation Workgroup was formed to address the issues of role confusion and functions, rates for ICC and provision for technical assistance. In 2009, the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) sponsored an information-sharing forum.</p> <p>All children receiving ICC services are also a part of a Family Assessment and Planning Team (FAPT), which helps coordinate services and identify what will be most helpful within the child's home. This service is not appropriate for all children; the FAPT has the role of referring those children for whom it will be beneficial.</p> <p>CSBs across Virginia provide ICC, along with other private providers. As of April 2011, ICC is provided by 32 of 40 CSBs. Funding to expand service availability is available through CSA.</p> <p>Coordinators' policy proposals were presented at the SEC meeting on March 14, 2013.</p> <p>Further information about ICC is available at <a href="http://vafamilyconnections.com">vafamilyconnections.com</a>.</p>

**COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES** *(continued)*

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Office of Comprehensive Services	<p><b>Utilization of Residential Facilities for Treatment of Children</b> Pursuant to § 2.2-5200 of the Code, Community Policy and Management Teams (CPMTs) are required to ensure that services and funding are consistent with the policies of preserving families and providing appropriate services in the least restrictive environment, while protecting the welfare of children and maintaining public safety. Localities must submit to the Office of Comprehensive Services (OCS) information on utilization of residential facilities for treatment of children and length of stay in such facilities.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Item 283-B-2.d of the 2012-2014 Biennium requires the OCS to report to the Governor and Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees on utilization rates and average length of stays statewide and for each locality by December 15 of each year.</p> <p>In FY 12, 187 youth were served in a Temporary Care Facility; 908 in a Group Home; and 1,233 in a Residential Treatment Facility.</p>
Office of Comprehensive Services	<p><b>Expenditures Associated with Children who Do Not Receive Pool Funding and Have Emotional and Behavioral Problems</b> Pursuant to § 2.2-2648 of the Code, the State Executive Council (SEC) is required to report and analyze these expenditures, as well as to identify funding streams for purchasing services in addition to pooled, Medicaid, and Title IV-E funding.</p> <p>Both reporting requirements will be included in the biennial state progress report on comprehensive services to youth and families delivered to the General Assembly and Community Policy and Management Teams.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The 2012 biennial state progress report to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees was published as <i>Report Document 102</i> (2012). It can be accessed on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website.</p> <p>This report noted that, since 2008, two strategies were implemented which decreased reliance on residential care as a service to youth. One strategy was the implementation of service categories and accompanying incentive match rates with the local government match rates 25% above the base match for residential services and 50% below the base match for community-based services. A second was the Children's Services Systems Transformation initiative which changed local practice to increase use of community-based services. These two initiatives had a significant impact on the overall service expenditures under CSA and also</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reduced the number of residential placements;</li> <li>• increased family-based placements, and</li> <li>• reduced the number of youth in foster care.</li> </ul> <p>To date, however, the Commonwealth has not yet achieved its target of 50% of all services funded under the CSA being community-based services.</p> <p>The next biennial report is due December 2014.</p>
Office of Comprehensive Services	<p><b>Technical Assistance to Localities</b> Item 283-B-6 of the 2012-2014 Biennium allocates \$50,000 for each year for a combination of regional and statewide meetings for technical assistance to local Community Policy and Management Teams (CPMTs), Family Assessment and Planning Teams (FAPTs), and fiscal agents.</p> <p>Training shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• cost containment measures;</li> <li>• building community-based services;</li> <li>• utilization management;</li> <li>• use of alternative revenue sources; and</li> <li>• administrative and fiscal issues.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The State Executive Council (SEC) is required to approve a training plan before the beginning of each fiscal year. Budget language also requires that the Office of Comprehensive Services (OCS) create and maintain a calendar of training events, which must be made available to local governments. The web-based cross-system CSA Interagency Training Calendar is a collaborative effort of the Departments of Social Services, Education, Medical Assistance Services, and OCS. The calendar can be accessed at <a href="http://www.csa.virginia.gov">www.csa.virginia.gov</a>.</p> <p>The Appropriation Act requires CSA to report on all regional and statewide training sessions in the fiscal year to the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees and to the members of the SEC by December 1 of each year.</p> <p>The State Executive Council met on March 14, 2013 to discuss training.</p>

**COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES** *(continued)*

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Office of Comprehensive Services	<p><b>Guidelines for Therapeutic Foster Care Services</b></p> <p>Item 283-K of the 2012-2014 Biennium directed the State Executive Council (SEC) to authorize guidelines for therapeutic foster care (TFC) services, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• standardized definition of therapeutic foster care services;</li> <li>• uniform service needs criteria required for the utilization of therapeutic foster care services;</li> <li>• uniform placement outcome goals to include length of stay targets when the service is indicated; and</li> <li>• uniform contracting requirements when purchasing therapeutic foster care services.</li> </ul> <p>The SEC was directed to authorize the use of regional contracts for the provision of TFC services and to require the Office of Comprehensive Services (OCS) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• work with stakeholders to develop these guidelines for the provision of TFC; and</li> <li>• develop regional contracts for the provision of TFC, with the goal of decreasing the unit cost of social services and maintaining or increasing the quality and effectiveness of the services.</li> </ul> <p>The SEC was to focus its attention on rural areas and areas with few service providers. Training on these guidelines was to be provided for all local departments of social services, Family Assessment and Planning Teams, Community Policy and Management Teams and TFC services providers.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Workgroup Member</p>	<p>The Appropriation Acts requires the Director of the Office of Comprehensive Services (OCS) to report the progress of these efforts to the SEC at its regularly scheduled meetings.</p> <p>In addition, Item 283-L of the 2012-2014 Biennium requires the OCS to report the following information to the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees beginning September 1, 2011 and each year thereafter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• funding for therapeutic foster care services, including but not limited to the number of children served annually, average cost of care, type of service provided, length of stay, referral source, and ultimate disposition. In addition, the OCS shall provide guidance and training to assist localities in negotiating contracts with therapeutic foster care providers; and</li> <li>• funding for special education day treatment, residential services, and services provided in public schools, including but not limited to the number of children served annually, average cost of care, type of service provided, length of stay, referral source, and ultimate disposition.</li> </ul> <p>This year's report, <i>Report Document 396</i>, is available on <a href="http://www.lis.virginia.gov">www.lis.virginia.gov</a>.</p> <p>The SEC has directed the OCS to solicit the participation of several stakeholder groups. By June 1, 2013, the workgroup will provide the SEC a statement of work to include the group's goals, a project timeline and the date for providing final recommendations to the SEC.</p>
Office of Comprehensive Services	<p>Since its initial inception, the intent of the Comprehensive Services Act has been to improve services to youth through pooled, multi-agency planning and funding. Funding is administered at the local level to provide communities the flexibility to serve youth and families in a manner consistent with local needs, resources, and philosophies. The <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Commonwealth of Virginia CSA Conference</b> attempts to address how vision and reality are reconciled to the benefit of youth.</p> <p>The event is April 30-May 1, 2013 in Roanoke.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Conference Participant</p>	<p>The 2013 CSA Conference will celebrate 20 years of CSA history. Speakers and roundtable topics will reflect current issues.</p> <p>Conference participants (including State Executive Council, State and Local Advisory Team) will receive information and training that will assist them in achieving the mission and vision of CSA. Workshops have been designed for local government representatives responsible for implementation of the CSA. Sessions are designed to meet the specific needs of CPMT members (e.g., local government administrators, agency heads, private provider representatives, and parent representatives), FAPT members, and CSA Coordinators.</p>
Office of Comprehensive Services	<p>Effective July 1, 2012 the Office of Comprehensive Services initiated a <b>Comprehensive Local Audit Process</b>. Audits are designed to provide analyses, appraisals, recommendations, counsel and information concerning various activities of CSA to assist CSA employees, partners and other stakeholders to effectively administer CSA.</p> <p>The program auditing function is intended to add value to OCS goals through, among other audit outcomes, the extent of compliance and extent to which established CSA goals and objectives are being met.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The SEC received a report at their March 21 meeting regarding audits completed thus far in FY 2013.</p>



## CHILD WELFARE

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Social Services	<p>The <b>Board of Social Services</b> consists of nine members appointed by the Governor based on qualifications and experience that demonstrate the member's suitability to consider and act upon needs and decisions within the board's area of responsibility. Members of the board are appointed for a term of four years, and no member is eligible to serve more than two successive full terms. The board includes a member from each of the welfare regions of the state. Standing committees are Adult Services, Child Services and Poverty.</p> <p>A Strategic Planning Committee operating under the name <b>Virginia Social Services System</b> (VSSS) serves as a partnership of key organizations responsible for the administration, supervision and delivery of social services. VSSS has implemented a strategic plan to set a course and measure progress. Members representing local departments of social services, the Virginia Community Action Partnership (V-CAP) and DSS are responsible for developing strategic goals, objectives and measures for DSS. The Committee operates under a charter which provides detailed information on the committee, its roles and responsibilities.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Board typically meets quarterly.</p> <p>Its first meeting of 2013 was held February 20-21. At this meeting, the Board received periodic review of the minimum standards for licensed child care institutions and minimum standards for independent foster homes. It also considered exemptions applicable to public assistance programs, and discussed the investigation of child abuse and neglect in out of family complaints.</p> <p>Additional 2013 meetings are scheduled for April 17-18, June 19-20, August 14-15, October 16-17 and December 11-12. Meeting agendas and minutes are available at <a href="http://www.dss.virginia.gov">www.dss.virginia.gov</a>.</p>
Office of the Governor/ Social Services	<p><b>Virginia Early Childhood Foundation</b> (VECF) was created in December 2005 upon recommendation of the Early Learning Council Task Force, which was charged with recommending strategies to improve Virginia's ability to provide early learning experiences to children from birth to age five.</p> <p>In making the recommendation, the Council cited the need for a state-level 501(c)(3) entity to lead an aggressive agenda to build the state's infrastructure for an effective early childhood system. As a nonprofit public-private partnership, VECF provides collaborative leadership to foster Smart Beginnings for Virginia's young children and grants, training and technical assistance to local communities to build their capacity to provide early childhood services.</p> <p>VECF relies on the shared leadership of local councils to provide strategic planning, effective integration of programs and services, decision-making and accountability for local delivery, implementation and outcomes.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Delegate BaCote serves on the Foundation Board.</p>	<p>On or before October 1 of each year, VECF must submit to the Governor and the Chairs of the money committees a report on the actual amount, by fiscal year, of private and local government funds received by the Foundation. <i>Report Document 227</i> (2012), VECF's 2012 Annual Report with financial statements, is posted on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website, as well as on <a href="http://www.smartbeginnings.org">www.smartbeginnings.org</a>.</p> <p>In 2012, VECF published the second edition of its Evidence Based Directory, a resource aimed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting efficient and effective use of funding by investing in programs and practices with sufficient evidence to create expectations for positive outcomes for children, families, and the programs that serve them.</li> <li>• Equipping Smart Beginnings coalitions with tools, resources and information grounded in a deep body of research so that they can be informed community partners and address local needs effectively.</li> <li>• Instilling a culture of excellence, continuous quality improvement, and accountability by promoting use of evidence based practice and emphasizing ongoing evaluation of funded programs.</li> <li>• Promoting high standards in Virginia for policies and programs, preserving Virginia's role as a national education leader.</li> </ul> <p>This resource may be downloaded here: <a href="http://www.smartbeginnings.org/home/about-us/about-smart-beginnings.aspx">http://www.smartbeginnings.org/home/about-us/about-smart-beginnings.aspx</a>.</p> <p>VECF has leveraged approximately \$20 million in support to Smart Beginnings coalitions over the past five years.</p>

**CHILD WELFARE** *(continued)*

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Social Services	<p>The <b>Alignment Project</b>, started in February 2006 and spearheaded by the Department of Social Services (DSS), now involves a team of professionals from many agencies under four secretariats, other agencies, and organizations from throughout Virginia. It functions under the oversight of the Early Childhood Advisory Council, which is discussed in the preceding section. The Alignment Project is the umbrella for Virginia's early childhood initiatives: Smart Beginnings, Start Strong, and the Star Quality Initiative.</p> <p>The Alignment Project documents reflect a set of guiding principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Families are the first and most influential teachers of young children.</li> <li>• Every child develops at an individual rate, possesses unique characteristics, and exhibits an array of talents and interests regardless of family background, culture, special need, experience, or ability.</li> <li>• Optimal learning occurs when we recognize that all aspects of a child's development (i.e., social and emotional, approaches to learning, language and literacy, cognitive, and physical) are inextricably interrelated and nurtured through a combination of active exploration, play, social interaction, and thoughtfully planned activities that capitalize on children's natural tendency to seek ever higher levels of challenge to master.</li> <li>• Early learning experiences draw upon and enhance the connections between families, early childhood programs and services, schools, and the community.</li> <li>• Quality early learning experiences for children are guided by research-based knowledge and practice.</li> <li>• All children are capable and competent learners, and they learn best when they are included with their peers.</li> </ul> <p>An Advisory Team oversees the Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Pilot Demonstration and provides guidance and strategic recommendations for Virginia's Star Quality Initiative.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Publications available through the Alignment Project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Childhood and Child Care Professional Development Career Lattice, which details steps of career development based on training, education and experience in the field (June 2011)</li> <li>• Milestones of Childhood Development</li> <li>• Competencies of the Early Childhood Professional</li> <li>• Related to Virginia's Star Quality (Quality Rating and Improvement System)</li> </ul> <p>With support from Capital One, Virginia's Star Quality Initiative provides quality standards for early learning programs on a five star scale. The Initiative offers a market-based solution to facilitate consistency among early childhood programs, support continuous improvement in partnership with public and private early education providers, and encourage a continuum of care and education throughout various provider settings, so that all children arrive in kindergarten ready to succeed.</p>
Virginia Early Childhood Foundation	<p><b>Smart Beginnings</b>, a component of the Alignment Project, is a statewide collaboration with the broad goal of sharing information and efforts to direct new and improved resources to families with children from birth to age five.</p> <p>The initiative highlights the health, social and emotional and cognitive needs of very young children, and urges partners in every community to plan and partner strategically for a strong early childhood system to meet these needs. It focuses on parent/consumer education information regarding selecting and accessing quality child care and preschool programs. A key component is public education messages about the correlation between high quality, early childhood education and a competitive workforce and vital economy.</p> <p>At the state level, leadership for Smart Beginnings is provided by the Governor's Working Group on Early Childhood Initiatives in the public sphere and the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation (VECF) in the private sphere. The planning process for Virginia's early childhood system of services involves approximately 50 partners statewide in both private and public sectors. There are currently about 30 Smart Beginnings coalitions serving almost 90 communities throughout Virginia.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Smart Beginnings' plan is intended to provide practical guidelines, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• prioritized goals, measurable objectives and strategies;</li> <li>• outcomes to measure progress; and</li> <li>• clear accountability and communication of results.</li> </ul> <p>Details of the plan are available at <a href="http://www.smartbeginnings.org">www.smartbeginnings.org</a>.</p> <p>The Annual Report for 2012 is currently available at <a href="http://www.smartbeginnings.org">www.smartbeginnings.org</a>.</p>

**CHILD WELFARE** (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Criminal Justice Services	<p><b>Virginia CARES</b> is a non-profit statewide organization funded in part through Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), federal Community Services Board (CSB) block grants and other funds. CARES is one of nine providers eligible to receive grants from DCJS for pre- and post-release services to Virginia offenders and ex-offenders. CARES was an outgrowth of another Roanoke organization.</p> <p>Other providers are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Northwestern Regional Jail;</li> <li>• Colonial Community Corrections Transitional Services;</li> <li>• Northern Neck Regional Jail;</li> <li>• O.A.R. (Arlington, Fairfax, Jefferson Area, and Richmond offices); and</li> <li>• STEPUP, Inc.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Virginia CARES maintains statistics on various issues, including participants who complete and implement life plans that establish responsible relationships with their families and children.</p> <p>Due to federal funding cuts, CARES has received significantly less funding in recent fiscal years, resulting in reduced operations budgets for CARES sites across the state.</p> <p>CARES has developed a Facebook page to keep interested persons informed of news and to offer way to stay in touch and add to dialogue surrounding ex-offender issues.</p> <p>Organizational updates are available at <a href="http://www.vacares.org/index.html">www.vacares.org/index.html</a>.</p>
Social Services	<p>The <b>Family &amp; Children's Trust Fund of Virginia</b> (FACT) was created by the General Assembly in 1986 as a public-private partnership to raise funds for the prevention and treatment of family violence, including child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and elder abuse and neglect.</p> <p>FACT is administered by a Board of 15 members appointed by the Governor and subject to confirmation by the General Assembly. The Commissioner of Social Services serves as a permanent member of the Board. Partners include the Department of Social Services, Prevent Child Abuse Virginia, the Center for Injury and Violence Prevention, Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, Department of Corrections–Victim Services, Virginia Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), and other entities and advocacy organizations.</p> <p>Funds, which come from a variety of sources, including KIDS FIRST license plates and merchandise, are subsequently re-distributed for local programs throughout Virginia. Also, Virginia law allows taxpayers to conveniently donate all or part of their state income tax refund to FACT.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Since 2010, a FACT Report is published annually to provide data on family violence in Virginia. The most recent report can be found at <a href="http://www.fact.state.va.us/fact-report.shtml">http://www.fact.state.va.us/fact-report.shtml</a>.</p> <p>Additional information about the Trust Fund is available at <a href="http://www.vakidsfirst.org">www.vakidsfirst.org</a>.</p>
Social Services	<p>Established in Code by the 2009 General Assembly, the <b>Virginia Child Protection Accountability System</b> (System) collects and makes available to the public information on Virginia's response to reported cases of child abuse. Code provisions, amended by the General Assembly as of July 1, 2010, add state police and circuit courts to the list of agencies required to report cases of child abuse and neglect into the System. The System is intended to increase communication and cooperation among law enforcement agencies and help officials see whether some localities fail to pursue people who prey on children.</p> <p>The Code requires the System to include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the total number of complaints alleging child abuse, neglect, or a combination thereof received;</li> <li>b) the total number of complaints deemed valid pursuant to § 63.2-1508;</li> <li>c) the total number of complaints investigated by the Department pursuant to subsection 1 of § 63.2-1503 and § 63.2-1505;</li> <li>d) the total number of cases determined to be founded cases of abuse or neglect; and</li> <li>e) the total number of cases resulting in a finding that the complaint was founded resulting in administrative appeal. (Information reported shall be reported by total number of appeals to the local department, total number of appeals to the Department, and total number of appeals by outcome of the appeal.)</li> </ol> <p>For each category of information required by this subdivision, DSS shall also report the total number of cases by type of abuse, by gender, age, and race of the alleged victim, and by the nature of the relationship between the alleged victim and alleged abuser.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Quarterly reports are available on the DSS website at <a href="http://www.dss.virginia.gov">www.dss.virginia.gov</a>.</p> <p>The System, as described by DSS:</p> <p><i>collects and makes available to the public information on the response to reported cases of child abuse and neglect in the Commonwealth. Quarterly reports provide information on the number of referrals received, accepted, investigated, founded and appealed by locality and for the State as a whole.</i></p>

**CHILD WELFARE** *(continued)*

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Social Services	<p>The <b>Child Welfare Advisory Committee</b> (CWAC) is the primary organization to advise the Department of Social Services (DSS) Director of the Division of Family Services on child welfare issues. It helps ensure that all child welfare activities are child-centered, family-focused and community-based.</p> <p>The CWAC was created in 2003 to assist in the Federal Child and Family Services Review conducted in July of that year. The Review subsequently indicated that Virginia needed to improve in several key areas, which led to expanded CWAC responsibilities for providing guidance and direction to the Program Improvement Plan (PIP).</p> <p>The PIP's corrective phase ended January 2007, but CWAC has continued its work. CWAC membership includes advocacy groups, private providers, local and state public agencies and foster/adoptive parents.</p> <p>Objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• advising on child welfare program, policy, training and practice issues;</li> <li>• advising on the development of the five-year Child and Family Services Plan and annual progress reports, as well as other state plans under the responsibility of Family Services; and</li> <li>• guiding development and implementation of Virginia's Program Improvement Plan (PIP) for any element that Virginia does not meet requirements of the Child and Family Services Review.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Committee Member</p>	<p>DSS child welfare programs addressed by CWAC include adoption, child protective services, family preservation, foster care, and Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC).</p> <p>CWAC currently meets on the third Friday of each month. On February 12, its first meeting of 2013, the group received updates on training available and legislation being considered at the General Assembly. Additionally, presentations were given on data trends and child welfare regulations.</p> <p>Agendas and minutes are available at the DSS website <a href="http://www.dss.virginia.gov">www.dss.virginia.gov</a>.</p>
Social Services	<p>The <b>Child Support Guidelines Review Panel</b> determines the adequacy of the guidelines for determining appropriate awards for the support of children by considering current research and data on the cost of and expenditures necessary for rearing children, and any other resources it deems relevant.</p> <p>States are required by federal regulation to review at least quadrennially their criteria for determining child support awards.</p> <p>The Panel consists of 15 members, including four legislative members and 11 non-legislative citizen members.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Panel Member</p>	<p>Pursuant to § 20-108.2 of the Code, the Panel is directed to review guidelines and report its findings to the General Assembly.</p> <p>The panel last met in November 2012. At that meeting, the panel received a presentation which summarized the two reports prepared for the Panel, one providing preliminary, updated guidelines schedules and the other providing expert advice on specific guideline factors.</p> <p>The panel's next meeting is May 3. Agendas and meeting materials are available at <a href="http://www.dss.virginia.gov/family/dcse/panel.cgi">www.dss.virginia.gov/family/dcse/panel.cgi</a>.</p>
Social Services	<p><b>Prevent Child Abuse Virginia</b> (PCAV) is a statewide, private nonprofit organization leading a coalition of community partners across the Commonwealth. It coordinates <b>Healthy Families Virginia</b> (HFV), a statewide system of support and information for all new families about parenting and community resources. It makes home visiting services available to families needing personal guidance. Other direct service programs include Hugs and Kisses and Nurturing Programs. In addition, PCAV provides Awareness Activities, such as Child Abuse Prevention Month promotions and a "Together for Children" newsletter, as well as educational opportunities and advocacy. Print and electronic materials are provided at no cost to parents and educators.</p> <p>DSS administers both the Virginia Family Violence Prevention Program (VFVPP) and Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) program grants for child abuse and neglect prevention. The VFVPP Program was established in 1982 for purposes stated in § 63.2-1502.3 of the Code: "to assist in developing programs aimed at discovering and preventing the many factors causing child abuse and neglect."</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking; Conference Participant</p>	<p>The 2013 <i>Virginia's Child Abuse Prevention Conference</i> will be held April 15, 2013. The theme this year is "Insure Their Future: Invest in Children."</p> <p>Program information and updates are available at <a href="http://www.pvac.org">www.pvac.org</a>.</p>

**CHILD WELFARE** (continued)

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Social Services	<p><b>Virginia Community Action Partnership</b> (VACAP) is the statewide membership association for Virginia's thirty non-profit private and public community action agencies which work to fight poverty and build self-sufficiency for strong families and communities.</p> <p>Item 343-A-2 of the 2012-2014 Biennium directs VACAP to support the Virginia Earned Income Tax Coalition and provide grants to local organizations offering outreach, education and tax preparation services to citizens eligible for the federal Earned Income Tax Credit.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Budget language requires the Department of Social Services to report its findings no later than December 1 of each year to the Governor and the Chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees and the Chairman of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission. <i>Report Document 314</i>, published December 2012, is available on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website.</p> <p>Among recent announcements was news that People Incorporated of Virginia in Abingdon received a Household Well Water System (HWWs) grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development to help families access safe and potable drinking water.</p> <p>An annual workshop/conference is scheduled for June 20, 2013 in Virginia Beach.</p> <p>VACAP has an active "Virginia's Fighting Poverty Network" webpage on which agencies throughout the state post news items about their service area. Further information is available at <a href="http://www.vacap.org">http://www.vacap.org</a>.</p>
Social Services	<p>The scope of Virginia's programs is presented in DSS' quarterly <b>Virginia Child Protection Newsletter</b> (VCPN). The scholarly periodical, which provides service providers and educators with detailed descriptions of Virginia programs, current research, and national trends, is published by DSS Child Protective Services Unit and James Madison University's Department of Psychology.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Fall 2012 issue focused on "Evidence-based Treatments for Childhood Trauma," with discussions of evidence-based as it applies, treatment modalities specific to childhood trauma, and other issues relevant to practitioners and family members.</p> <p>Current and past issues are available at the James Madison website—<a href="http://psychweb.cisat.jmu.edu/graysojh">http://psychweb.cisat.jmu.edu/graysojh</a>.</p>
Social Services	<p>The <b>Virginia League of Social Services Executives</b> (VLSSE) is a statewide organization whose goal is to foster collegial relationships among its members and collaboration among agencies and governments in the formulation, implementation, and advocacy of legislation and policies which promote the public welfare. It targets categories of social services through committees, including the Child Care Committee, the CSA Committee and the Child and Family Services Committee. The charges for the Child and Family Services Committee are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify child welfare workgroups and works with state partners to insure League representation on those workgroups in the development of the implementation plans for state initiatives related to child welfare.</li> <li>As a continuous quality improvement effort, work to develop an MOU with state partners to establish a more effective communication system regarding child welfare practice so that modifications to guidance is shared consistently statewide</li> <li>Develop a document identifying the current state of children in Virginia and what is needed by local agencies to improve the process of serving families.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> VLSSE Child and Family Services Committee Member, Tracking the CSA Committee</p>	<p>The Child and Family Services Committee meets on the first Friday of each month.</p>



**CHILD WELFARE** (continued)

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Social Services	<p>The <b>Virginia Information and Referral (I&amp;R) System</b> has existed for almost a quarter of a century. Section 63.2-222 of the Code established a statewide I&amp;R system, which is designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Collect and maintain accurate and complete resource data on a statewide basis;</li> <li>▪ Link citizens needing human services with appropriate community resources to satisfy those needs;</li> <li>▪ Assist in planning for human services delivery at the local, regional and state levels; and</li> <li>▪ Provide information to assist decision-makers in allocating financial and other resources to respond to State and local human service priorities.</li> </ul> <p>Item 345-D of the 2013 Enrolled Budget Bill provides \$473,844 the first year and \$473,844 the second year from the general fund and \$781,791 the first year and \$781,791 the second year from nongeneral funds shall be provided to support the statewide 2-1-1 Information and Referral System which provides resource and referral information on many of the specialized health and human resource services available in the Commonwealth.</p> <p>Budget language also required the Department to request that all state and local child-serving agencies within the Commonwealth be included in the Virginia Statewide Information and Referral System as well as any agency or entity that receives state general fund dollars and provides services to families and youth. The Secretary of Health and Human Resources, the Secretary of Education and Workforce, and the Secretary of Public Safety shall assist in this effort by requesting all affected agencies within their secretariats to submit information to the statewide Information and Referral System and ensure that such information is accurate and updated annually. Agencies shall also notify the Virginia Information and Referral System of any changes in services that may occur throughout the year. Additionally, the Department is to communicate with child-serving agencies within the Commonwealth about the availability of the statewide Information and Referral System. This information shall also be communicated via the Department of Social Services' broadcast system on their agency-wide Intranet so that all local and regional offices can be better informed about the Statewide Information and Referral System. Information on the Statewide Information and Referral System shall also be included within the department's electronic mailings to all local and regional offices at least biannually.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Regional Call Centers include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council of Community Services – Roanoke;</li> <li>• Family Resource &amp; Referral – Staunton;</li> <li>• Crisis Link – Northern Virginia;</li> <li>• The Planning Council – Norfolk;</li> <li>• United Way of Central Virginia – Lynchburg; and</li> <li>• United Way of Greater Richmond &amp; Petersburg.</li> </ul> <p>Centers are certified through AIRS, the international Alliance of Information and Referral Systems, a statewide association working to ensure that all Virginians have access to quality health and human services information.</p> <p>2-1-1 offers callers a connection to a trained professional who provides referrals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic human needs;</li> <li>• Work initiatives (including GED preparation and educational/vocational training programs);</li> <li>• Support to seniors and those with disabilities (including relative caregiver information);</li> <li>• Support for children, youth and families (including after-school programs, tutoring, mentorships, protective services, early childhood learning programs, child care referral centers); and</li> <li>• Volunteer service opportunities and donations,</li> <li>• Physical and mental health resources (pre-natal care, children's health insurance, support groups).</li> </ul> <p>According to 2-1-1's Annual Report, 133,655 calls were received in FY11. This report is available at its website, <a href="http://www.211virginia.org">www.211virginia.org</a>, which is updated for on-line inquiries and now has Spanish as a second language option. It also offers assistance to users with vision or hearing impairments.</p>

**CHILD WELFARE** *(continued)*

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Housing and Community Development/ Social Services	<p>The <b>Child Care for Homeless Children Program</b> is provided through the federally funded Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG). The origination point of the block grant is the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. The Virginia Department of Social Services (DSS) is the designated lead agency for the administration of the CCDBG. DSS makes available a portion of the CCDBG funds for the Child Care for Homeless Children Program (CCHCP).</p> <p>The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) administers the CCHCP through an interagency agreement with DSS. The goal of the Child Care for Homeless Children Program is to increase the availability and affordability of quality child care to homeless families residing in an emergency shelter or transitional housing. CCHCP is available to Homeless Solutions Grant (HSG) providers to access to assist in reimbursing the costs of childcare for clients who are working or participating in an educational or job training program.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Child Care for Homeless Children Program objectives are to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal funding to emergency shelters and transitional housing programs to afford homeless parents with a broader range of child care options for their children; and</li> <li>• Homeless families with financial resources to aid in the transition to self-sufficiency.</li> </ul> <p>In FY13, the CCDBG grant provides \$350,000 to be distributed to service providers statewide.</p> <p>Further information is available at <a href="http://www.dhcd.virginia.gov">www.dhcd.virginia.gov</a>.</p>
Criminal Justice Services	<p>Through the <b>Children's Justice Act Program</b>, the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) offers training and technical assistance to Virginia jurisdictions and professionals to enhance the investigation and prosecution of child maltreatment.</p> <p>Professional &amp; Technical Assistance is targeted to commonwealth's attorneys, law enforcement investigators, child protective service workers, medical, mental health and school professionals and other allied professionals.</p> <p>Local Technical Assistance aims to improve the response of multiple agencies to child maltreatment. The Children's Justice Act Program has been working with localities in Virginia to develop formal, functional teams since 1990. In 1975, the General Assembly enacted legislation requiring cooperation among certain entities involved in the detection and prevention of child abuse (Section 63.2-1507). In 2004, another Code change expressly allowed the department of social services to develop multidisciplinary teams for the purpose of investigating child abuse cases and making recommendations for prosecution (Section 63.2-1503 (K)). Professionals working with abused and neglected children generally agree that a multi-disciplinary approach to child maltreatment has the greatest potential for success, thus law enforcement officers, child protective service (CPS) workers, commonwealth's attorneys, physicians, nurses, educators, mental health clinician, and other professionals work together to ensure the best possible outcome for the children they serve.</p> <p>Resources specific to child maltreatment include a Child Abuse Poster for Emergency Departments and informational materials related to Child Witness Testimony in Court where the victim was age 14 or younger at the time of the alleged offense, is age 16 or under at the time of the hearing, or is 14 years of age or under at the time of the trial.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>A calendar of events and training opportunities offered by DCJS is on its website at <a href="http://dcjs.virginia.gov">dcjs.virginia.gov</a>.</p>

**CHILD WELFARE** (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Voices for Virginia's Children	<p>The <b>KIDS COUNT</b> data system is an on-going nationwide effort to monitor key statistical indicators of the well-being of children. Supported by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, KIDS COUNT gives policy makers, researchers, government and elected officials, funders and others ready access to more than 100 up-to-date statistical indicators of health status, educational achievement, poverty and socio-economic status, family and community demographics reflecting overall child-being and risk factors that threaten well-being. The data is presented such that Virginia data can be compared to other states and national trends.</p> <p>Data is categorized by the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Economic Well-Being</li> <li>• Health</li> <li>• Safety and Risky Behaviors</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Voices for Virginia's Children, a non-profit organization, is part of the KIDS COUNT national network. An Advisory Group of professionals has been convened to assess data needs in Virginia. Voices maintains a KIDS COUNT on-line data center to make accessing and portraying data easier for users. The data center can be accessed at <a href="http://vakids.org/work/kcdata.htm">http://vakids.org/work/kcdata.htm</a>.</p> <p>New data recently released by the Census Bureau shows that the latest child poverty rate in Virginia is 14.2%, up from 13.9% in 2009, exceeding the overall Virginia poverty rate of 11.1%. Moreover, the data reveal that poverty rates vary across congressional districts from 6.4% to 29.5%. Child population in Virginia (0-17) is 1,853,677, as of the most recent data count.</p> <p>The Commission on Youth received a presentation on KIDS COUNT at its April 2, 2013 meeting.</p>

**KINSHIP CARE, FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION**

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Commission on Youth	<p><b>Three Branch Institute on Child Social and Emotional Well-being</b> of the National Governors Association seeks to improve the social and emotional well-being of children in foster care in participating states. The Institute's Request for Proposal requires the coordination and collaboration of the state's executive, legislative and judicial branches of government. The goal is for states to develop a state-specific plan for children and youth receiving foster care services through the state's child welfare system. The Institute will provide support for states in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifying the nexus between the unique health, mental health and education challenges of children in foster care;</li> <li>• Examining strategies in which safety, permanency and well-being are interrelated;</li> <li>• Highlighting best or promising practices across the state; and</li> <li>• Identifying possible gaps or barriers in policy in order to improve outcomes for children connected to the child welfare system.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Commission on Youth Study</p>	<p>The Commission on Youth will receive the draft study plan at its April 2, 2013 meeting. As proposed, in the 2013 study year, the Commission will collaborate and coordinate with the executive and judicial branches in Virginia's application for the National Governors Association's Three Branch Institute on Child Social and Emotional Well-Being Request for Proposal to improve the social and emotional well-being of foster care children in Virginia.</p>
Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)	<p><b>Virginia Caregiver Coalition (VCC)</b> is composed of public, private and non-profit organizations and individual caregivers, with the goal of improving the caregiving experience through education, advocacy and resource accessibility.</p> <p>With the July 1, 2012 merger of the Departments for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (to be joined by the adult services units of the Department of Social Services), the overall coordination of the VCC is assumed by the newly-established Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (VDAR).</p> <p>Members include the Virginia Department for the Aging and Rehabilitative Services, the Department for the Blind &amp; Vision Impaired (VDBVI), the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS), and the Department of Social Services (DSS), as well as partner organizations and businesses serving older citizens and individuals.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The VCC met on January 24 to provide educational programming for volunteer respite providers. At its meeting on March 21, agenda items included a presentation on "Caring for our Virginia Veterans and their Caregivers", as well as an update on the Lifespan Respite Care and Voucher Program.</p> <p>Organizational updates related to the VCC are available online at <a href="http://www.vadars.org/services.htm">www.vadars.org/services.htm</a>.</p>

**KINSHIP CARE, FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION** *(continued)*

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)	<p>Through a federal grant awarded to the Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS), Virginia home-based caregivers are being offered reimbursement vouchers through DARS' new <a href="#">Virginia Lifespan Respite Voucher Program</a>.</p> <p>Reimbursement vouchers to home-based caregivers are intended to cover the cost of temporary, short-term respite care provided to individuals of any age with a disability or special need (infants, children and adults, including elderly persons). Funding is provided by the federal Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging --Office of Home and Community Based Services.</p> <p>Virginia respite care caregivers who reside full-time in the same household as the person receiving care are eligible to apply for voucher funding. Organizations providing respite are also eligible. Voucher funding is limited to a total of \$400 per family. All funds must be expended by July 31, 2013.</p> <p>Funds may not be used to reimburse household expenses or daycare. Due to limited funds, not all eligible applications will be approved.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The VCC met on January 24 to provide educational programming for volunteer respite providers. At its meeting on March 21, agenda items included a presentation on "Caring for our Virginia Veterans and their Caregivers", as well as an update on the Lifespan Respite Care and Voucher Program.</p> <p>Organizational updates related to the VCC are available online at <a href="http://www.vadars.org/services.htm">www.vadars.org/services.htm</a>.</p>
Medical Assistance Services	<p><a href="#">Treatment Foster Care and Residential Psychiatric Services Training</a></p> <p>Item 307-R of the 2013 Enrolled Budget Bill requires the Department of Medical Assistance Services, in cooperation with the State Executive Council, to offer semi-annual training to local Comprehensive Services Act teams on procedures for using Medicaid for residential treatment and treatment foster care services. Proper utilization of in-patient and out-patient mental health services is to be included in this training.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Further information on the 2013 calendar is available at <a href="http://www.dmas.virginia.gov">www.dmas.virginia.gov</a>.</p>
Social Services/ Office of Comprehensive Services	<p><a href="#">Foster Care Training</a></p> <p>Item 336-A of the 2013 Enrolled Budget Bill directs the Department of Social Services, in collaboration with the Office of Comprehensive Services, to provide training to local staff serving on Family Assessment and Planning Teams and Community Policy and Management Teams. Training will address federal and state requirements related to foster care services funded under § 2.2-5211 of the Code, as well as written guidance on which services remain the financial responsibility of local departments.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>As mandated, training will be provided on a regional basis at least annually.</p> <p>A list of on-going training opportunities is available at the CSA website — <a href="http://www.csa.state.va.us/csacal/maincal.cfm">www.csa.state.va.us/csacal/maincal.cfm</a>.</p>
Social Services	<p>Item 341-G of the 2013 Enrolled Budget Bill provides that \$828,734 the first year from federal funds and \$1,500,000 the second year from the general fund is to go towards the implementation of <a href="#">pilot programs aimed at increasing the adoption of children in foster care</a>.</p> <p>The 2013 General Assembly passed legislation (HB 2271, Orrock) requiring the Department of Social Services to use all federal adoption bonus payments received by the Commonwealth to support post adoption services.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Beginning October 1, 2013 the department is to provide a quarterly report, within 30 days of quarter end, on the use and effectiveness of this funding including the additional number of special needs children adopted from foster care as a result of this effort and the types of ongoing supportive services provided. The report is to be shared with the Governor, Chairmen of House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees, and the Director, Department of Planning and Budget.</p>

**KINSHIP CARE, FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION** *(continued)*

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Social Services	<p>The <b>Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008</b> (H.R. 6893/P.L. 110-351) addresses the needs of youth in foster care by promoting permanent families for them through relative guardianship and adoption and improving education and health care. Additionally, it extends federal support for youth up to age 21. The Fostering Connections Act will, for the first time, offer many American Indian children federal protections and support, and provides for the following:</p> <p><u>Ensuring Permanent Placements with Relatives</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kinship guardianship assistance payments for children living in foster care with relatives</li> <li>• Licensing standards for relatives</li> </ul> <p><u>Increasing Adoptive Families for Children</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal support for adoption assistance for more children with special needs</li> <li>• Expanding the Adoption Incentives Program</li> <li>• Making older children who exit foster care eligible for additional supports</li> <li>• Outreach about the adoption tax credit</li> </ul> <p><u>Maintaining Sibling Ties and Other Family Connections</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Placing siblings together</li> <li>• Family Connection Grants</li> </ul> <p><u>Improving Outcomes for Older Youth in Foster Care</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuing federal support for children in foster care after age 18</li> <li>• Helping older youth successfully transition from foster care to independence</li> </ul> <p><u>Improving the Quality of Staff Working with Children in the Child Welfare System</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extending federal training to more staff</li> </ul> <p><u>Increasing Access to Federal Funding to Promote Better Outcomes for Indian Children</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allowing Indian tribes direct access to federal foster care and adoption assistance funds</li> </ul> <p><u>Addressing Children's Health and Education Needs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing health oversight and coordination plans</li> <li>• Promoting educational stability</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Although this is federal law, it is included because of its far-reaching impact on future state initiatives in the Commonwealth.</p> <p>Fostering Connections provides a website which contains technical resources and information for policymakers and others who are working to implement the Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quick facts about children in foster care in Virginia;</li> <li>• Current legislation proposed and enacted related to the law;</li> <li>• Existing state policies, tools, analyses and research relevant for the various components of the new law;</li> <li>• Examples of state and tribal approaches to implementation;</li> <li>• Information about upcoming events and news; and</li> <li>• A listing of Virginia contacts that may be helpful resources for implementing the Act.</li> </ul> <p>Additional information is available at <a href="http://www.fosteringconnections.org/resources/state?id=0046">www.fosteringconnections.org/resources/state?id=0046</a>.</p>
Social Services	<p><b>FACES</b> (Family Advocacy, Collaboration, Empowerment, and Support) of Virginia Families, the organization seeks to establish a grassroots effort for kinship parents, foster and adoptive parents in Virginia.</p> <p>FACES, a not-for-profit association funded by the Virginia Department of Social Services (DSS), supports recruitment and retention of foster, kinship and adoptive parents, provides information to the State about what families need in terms of support and training, and advocates for the needs of youth and families.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>FACES has added a "Lean on Me" webpage for kinship caregivers as part of a mission to identify foster, adoptive, and kinship families in need of referrals and supports. Weblinks for Caregivers and for Youth are provided on the FACES website, <a href="http://www.facesofvirginia.org">www.facesofvirginia.org</a>.</p> <p>FACES maintains a toll-free phone number for families through funding under a DSS family support contract. FACES also convenes weekly Facebook "chats" for its members and has hosted, in Spring 2013, several webinars.</p>
Department of Medical Assistance Services	<p>The Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) received permission from the Governor and the General Assembly to move foster care children into <b>Medicaid managed care health plans</b> from fee for service Medicaid. A pilot project was initiated in the City of Richmond for children eligible in December 2011.</p> <p>Statewide implementation for eligible children in foster care or receiving adoption assistance will begin July 1, 2013 in the Central and Tidewater Managed Care Regions and transition to the rest of the state on October 1, 2013. Representatives from DMAS, Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS), Local Departments of Social Services (LDSS), and the Managed Care Organizations (MCO)s are collaborating to make this statewide transition as smooth and successful as possible for the children, their families, and all involved parties.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Workgroups have met monthly in the Central and Tidewater regions to plan for the transition.</p> <p>DMAS, VDSS and Local Departments of Social Services are conducting trainings during the spring of 2013. The goal of the transition is to improve children's access to medically necessary services. Trainings will be held in early fall for parents and providers in those areas outside Central and Tidewater regions. Further information can be found on the DMAS website at <a href="http://dmas.virginia.gov">dmas.virginia.gov</a>.</p>



**KINSHIP CARE, FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION** (continued)

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Social Services	The 2013 General Assembly passed legislation (HB 1743, Brink/SB 863, Favola) allowing local departments of social services and licensed child-placing agencies to make <b>independent living services available</b> to persons 18 to 21 years of age who are released from commitment to the Department of Juvenile Justice after reaching 18 years of age and who were committed or entrusted to the care of a local board of social services or child-placing agency at the time they were committed to the custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice.	This legislation goes into effect July 1, 2013.

**CHILD CARE**

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Social Services	<p><b>Automation of Child Care Assistance Program</b></p> <p>Item 337-L of the 2013 Enrolled Budget Bill expresses the General Assembly's intent that the Department of Social Services (DSS) automated child care assistance programs in Virginia.</p> <p>DSS has developed a comprehensive automated system for the Child Care Subsidy Program that allows Virginia to meet federal mandates more efficiently, provide greater accuracy in payments to vendors, and improve overall program management. The new system assists local departments of social services with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determining eligibility and management of caseloads;</li> <li>• Timely provision of services to families;</li> <li>• Accurate data regarding children and families served;</li> <li>• Timely and more accurate payments to vendors;</li> <li>• Direct costs associated with child care;</li> <li>• Analysis of encumbrances and expenditures; and</li> <li>• The assessment of unmet child care needs.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>In January 2009, DSS issued a Request for Information (RFI) to determine whether baseline requirements developed for the automated child care system could be met with existing technology and to identify new functionalities to make program management more efficient. Award of the contract took place in November 2009.</p> <p>Budget language requires DSS to report on the adequacy of the system and needed action to the Governor and the General Assembly by October 15 of each year. <i>Report Document 254</i> (2012) - is available on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System.</p>
Social Services	<p><b>Responsibility for Regulating Child Day Programs</b> Legislation passed by the 2012 General Assembly (HB 1291, Gilbert) reassigns this responsibility to the State Board of Social Services and, in the process, eliminates the Child Day Care Council (CDCC), which has operated under the Secretary of Human Resources. This restructuring was a recommendation of the Government Reform Initiatives and part of the Governor's reorganization of the executive branch.</p> <p>The legislation increases the membership of the State Board from nine to eleven members and adds a requirement that at least two State Board members be child professionals and provides that regulations promulgated by the CDCC remain in full force until regulations are promulgated by the State Board.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The State Board and CDCC effected the transition as of July 1, 2012.</p> <p>Past CDCC meeting agendas and minutes are available at <a href="http://www.dss.state.va.us/geninfo/cdc_council">http://www.dss.state.va.us/geninfo/cdc_council</a>.</p>
Social Services	<p>Item 337-K of the 2012-2014 Biennium designates \$2,639,305 the first year and \$2,647,305 the second year of state funds, and \$54,466,586 the first year and \$54,466,586 the second year of federal funds to support the <b>administration of state child care programs on a sliding scale basis to income eligible families.</b></p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	The Department shall report on the sliding fee scale and eligibility criteria adopted by the Board of Social Services by December 15 of each year.

## MENTAL HEALTH/DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Commission on Youth	<p>SJR 358 (2003) directed the Commission on Youth to update biennially its publication, the <b><i>Collection of Evidence-based Practices for Children and Adolescents with Mental Health Treatment Needs</i></b> (House Document 9, 2003). The purpose of the <i>Collection</i> is to identify effective treatment modalities and practices for children, including juvenile offenders, with mental health treatment needs. Moreover, utilization of evidence-based practices in the field of children's mental health may offer the Commonwealth cost savings.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Commission on Youth Study</p>	<p>The Commission on Youth will receive a draft study plan at its April 2, 2013 meeting.</p> <p>The <i>Collection 5<sup>th</sup> Edition</i>, is scheduled to be released in April. This edition reflects action on recommendations approved by the Commission to address developmental disabilities.</p> <p>The American Psychiatric Association (APA) has made several significant changes to the categorization of disorders included in the <i>DSM-5</i> which will impact the <i>Collection 6<sup>th</sup> Edition</i>. In 2013, the Commission will need to make significant revisions to the <i>5<sup>th</sup> Edition</i> to incorporate these changes. <i>DSM-5</i> will be published in May 2013.</p>
Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p>The <b>State Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services</b> (Board) is a policy-making body comprised of nine citizens of the Commonwealth. At least one third of the members must be consumers or family members of consumers, with at least one being a direct consumer of services. The Board has the statutory authority for the establishment of policy for the Department, State Facilities and Community Services Boards (CSBs). Members are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the General Assembly.</p> <p>Available to citizens statewide, Virginia's public mental health, intellectual disability and substance abuse services system is comprised of 16 state-operated facilities and 40 locally-run community services boards (CSBs). The CSBs and facilities serve children and adults who have—or who are at risk of—mental illness, serious emotional disturbance, intellectual disabilities, or substance abuse disorders.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Board is required to meet at least quarterly. Its first meeting of 2013 will be on April 9. At this meeting there will be a General Assembly session and budget review, along with an update of DOJ .</p> <p>Executive summaries are published annually and may be accessed at <a href="http://www.dbhds.virginia.gov/adm-StateBoardDefault.htm#meet">http://www.dbhds.virginia.gov/adm-StateBoardDefault.htm#meet</a>.</p>
Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p>The <b>Behavioral Health Planning Council</b> advocates for a consumer-driven system of services and supports that promotes self-determination, empowerment, recovery, resilience, health, and the highest possible level of consumer participation in all aspects of community life including work, school, family and other meaningful relationships. It is the primary, ongoing forum for articulating and building a consensus among stakeholders. The Council annually reviews all expenditures and budgets in the state system for mental health and substance abuse services to satisfy the federal mandate that monies spent do not conflict with the restrictions of the federal mandate. Additionally, the Council reviews all other state plans impacting mental health and substance abuse consumers. The Council is one of two related to the BHDS mandate created in the Code of Virginia.</p> <p>The Council continuously monitors and evaluates the implementation of the state's Mental Health Plan including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>allocation, adequacy and quality of services to children and adults with serious emotional and mental disorders,</li> <li>the congruence between existing services and the Commonwealth's stated values, priorities and goals, and</li> <li>the plan's impact on quality of life for consumers and their families.</li> </ol> <p>The Council makes recommendations to departments and agencies serving or funding services for consumers and families, including the Commissioner and the Board of the DBHDS and the Governor.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Council utilizes standing committees to monitor the development and implementation of the Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation;</li> <li>• Monitoring and Oversight;</li> <li>• The Evaluation, Monitoring and Oversight; Advocacy;</li> <li>• Adult Services; and</li> <li>• Child and Family Services.</li> </ul> <p>The Council met last on February 20, 2013.</p>

**MENTAL HEALTH/DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES** *(continued)*

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p><b>System of Care Expansion Initiative</b>            The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) developed a successful SAMHSA Systems of Care Expansion Planning Grant that helped support initial implementation of the children's behavioral health services through training and technical assistance activities that advanced the systems of care philosophy on a statewide basis and in selected communities.</p> <p>The \$500,000 planning award officially ended in September 2012, but a no-cost extension was received to continue training activities for the balance of FY 2013.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The grant has supported formation of a System of Care Expansion Planning Team of state agency, service provider, family, youth and advocacy members is working to fill gaps and build community capacity.</p> <p>Four pilot CSBs – Colonial Behavioral Health, Fairfax-Falls Church CSB, Rappahannock Area CSB, and Valley CSB – received scholarship assistance to participate in Systems of Care Training Institutes and visits to a "best practice site."</p> <p>Following the Planning Grant, Virginia was awarded a four-year Implementation Grant to further advance System of Care principles in Virginia communities. The new grant also supports workforce development and family support activities.</p>
Medical Assistance Services/ Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p><b>Medicaid Waivers for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities and Developmental Disabilities</b>            The 2011 Acts of Assembly directed the Departments of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) and Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS), in consultation with appropriate stakeholders and national experts, to review the current Intellectual Disabilities, Day Support and Individual and Family Developmental Disabilities Support waivers. There were five stated goals to guide the collaborative study, including strengthening the delivery of person-centered supports, enabling individuals to remain in the community setting of their choice, enabling more individuals to be served, and increasing efficiency and cost effectiveness, and providing.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>DMAS was directed to identify improvements and report on the proposed waiver changes and associated costs to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees by October 1, 2011. Because of on-going discussions with the Department of Justice, the report date was delayed until January 2012. <i>Report Document 76</i> (2012) can be accessed on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website.</p> <p>The report notes that, within the next three years, the waivers must be renewed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid. The renewal process offers an opportunity to renew and replace older waivers with new waivers to more comprehensively address the changing needs of individuals and their families.</p>
Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p>Item 315-W of the 2012-2014 Biennium provides \$1,500,000 the first year and \$1,750,000 the second year to be used to provide <b>child psychiatry and children's crisis response services</b> for children with mental health and behavioral disorders. The 2013 Enrolled Budget increased the amount to \$3,650,000 in the second year.</p> <p>Funds are to be divided among the health planning regions based on current availability of the services. They are to be used to hire/contract with child psychiatrists who can provide direct clinical services, including crisis response services, as well as training and consultation with other children's health care providers to increase their expertise in preventing, diagnosing, and treating child mental health disorders.</p> <p>Funds may also be used to create new or enhance existing community-based crisis response services in a health planning region, including mobile crisis teams and crisis stabilization services, with the goal of diverting children from inpatient psychiatric hospitalization to less restrictive services in or near their communities.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Department will report on the use and impact of Item 315-W this funding to the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance committees beginning on October 1, 2013, and each year thereafter.</p> <p>In addition, in Item 315-Y of the 2013 Enrolled Budget Bill, the General Assembly appropriated \$1,250,000 the second year to develop and implement crisis services for children with intellectual or developmental disabilities.</p>

**MENTAL HEALTH/DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES** (continued)

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Medical Assistance Services/ Community Services Boards	<p><b>Virginia Independent Clinical Assessment Program</b> (VICAP)—Item 297 YY of the 2011 Appropriation Act mandated children under the age of 21 years to be evaluated (a comprehensive independent assessment) by a licensed or licensed-eligible mental health professional of the Community Services Boards or Behavioral Health Authorities (CSB or BHA) in order to access certain community mental health rehabilitative services from any provider effective July 18, 2011. These services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intensive In-Home Services (IIH)</li> <li>• Therapeutic Day Treatment (TDT)</li> <li>• Mental Health Support Services</li> <li>• Residential Treatment (Date TBA)</li> </ul> <p>The objective of implementing standardized clinical assessments is to improve the care of children who are accessing these services, measure outcomes, and ensure appropriate utilization.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Prior to implementation, the CSB Steering Committee, DMAS, and the prior authorization (PA) contractor planned for anticipated 35,000 needed assessments throughout the year. The PA contractor and CSBs set up new data systems and strategies for entry and data collection. They also conducted intensive/standardized training of VICAP assessors, both CSB employees/contracted assessors. A CSB Capacity Workgroup was formed. Finally, a dedicated phone line was established for families to call to schedule appointments-numbers listed on DMAS website.</p> <p>As of February 2012, over 20,000 independent assessments had been completed. The services that were recommended most frequently were TDT, Outpatient Psychiatry/Medical Evaluation, and non-physician Outpatient Counseling.</p> <p>Utilization of higher intensive services such as IIH and TDT has been trending downward since July 2011.</p>
Education	<p><b>Training Required of Personnel Working With Autism Spectrum Disorder Students</b></p> <p>The 2012 General Assembly passed legislation requiring school boards to ensure that aides assigned to work with a teacher who has primary oversight of students with autism spectrum disorders receive training in student behavior management within 60 days of assignment to such responsibility. The law also requires the Board of Education to provide training standards for school divisions to use in satisfying this requirement.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>In January 2013, the Virginia Board of Education passed the training standards related to this bill. The document is entitled <i>Training Standards for Paraprofessionals Assigned to Work with a Teacher Who Has Primary Oversight of Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders</i> and training standards were developed in collaboration with VCU's Autism Center for Excellence and other stakeholders throughout the Commonwealth.</p> <p>More information, including a link to the document, can be found at <a href="http://www.vcuautismcenter.org/parapro/index.cfm">http://www.vcuautismcenter.org/parapro/index.cfm</a>.</p>
Legislative Services	<p>The <b>Autism Advisory Council</b> is established in the legislative branch to promote coordination of services and resources among agencies involved in the delivery of services to Virginians with autism spectrum disorders and to increase public awareness of such services and resources. The Council was created by the 2011 General Assembly.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Funds were included in the 2012-2014 Appropriations Act. The Council will expire on July 1, 2014.</p> <p>The Council is to submit an annual report by December 1 containing progress updates and recommended next steps to be taken by agencies in the following year to the Governor, the General Assembly. As of this date, no report has been submitted, as the Council has not met.</p>
Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p>The <b>Advisory Consortium on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities</b> (TACIDD) serves in an advisory capacity on issues of policy, services, and supports for persons with developmental disabilities (DD) in Virginia. TACIDD produces written "Advisories" to the Department and utilizes work groups to research and develop the Advisories on specific issues. TACIDD tracks items pertaining to DD which are being developed by other agencies and organizations.</p> <p><b>Commission involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>TACIDD meets four times a year. Meetings are held on the third Friday of the months of April, June, September, and November at the Henrico County Community Services Board. The TACIDD met last on November 16, 2012.</p> <p>Additional information is available at <a href="http://www.dbhds.virginia.gov/ODS-TACIDD.htm">http://www.dbhds.virginia.gov/ODS-TACIDD.htm</a></p>

**MENTAL HEALTH/DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES** *(continued)*

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p><b>Operation of Virginia's Publicly-funded Behavioral Health and Developmental Services System</b></p> <p>Item 314-K of the 2012-2014 Appropriations Act directed the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (BHDS) to submit an annual report on the operation of Virginia's publicly-funded behavioral health and developmental services system. Legislation required the report to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a brief narrative and data on the numbers of individuals receiving state facility services of CSB services, including purchased inpatient psychiatric services;</li> <li>• the types and amounts of services received by these individuals,</li> <li>• CSA and state facility service capacities, staffing, revenues, and expenditures; and</li> <li>• major new initiatives implemented during the past year and information on the accomplishment of systemic outcome and performance measures during the year.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The BHDS is to submit its report to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees no later than December 1 of each year for the preceding fiscal year.</p> <p>The BHDS' first report was published as Report Document 62 (2012) and is available on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System.</p>
Office for Protection and Advocacy	<p>The Virginia Office for Protection and Advocacy has an <b>Advisory Council for the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness Program</b> (PAIMI). This Council, which is federally-funded, promotes the provision of legal and advocacy services for adults and children with mental illness who live in a hospital or other facility providing care and treatment for their illness.</p> <p>The Advisory Council is comprised of 15-20 members representative of Virginia's diverse culture and geography. Membership includes individuals who have received or are receiving mental health services and family members (at least 60 percent), attorneys, mental health professionals, individuals knowledgeable about mental illness, service providers, and at least one parent of a minor child with mental illness.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	PAIMI is scheduled to meet on May 18 and August 10, 2013.
Association of Community Services Boards	<p><b>Virginia Child and Family Services Council</b>, which is one of six councils of the Virginia Association of Community Services Boards, addresses issues pertaining to service delivery to children and their families. It also provides a forum for information sharing and networking among the respective Task Force members. The Council collaborates with the Department of Behavioral Health and Development Services (DBHDS) and other related state agencies to assure consistent policies, protocols, procedures and data collection methods in service delivery and reporting.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	The Council meets quarterly on the first Friday of the month.
Education	<p>The <b>I'm Determined Project</b> is the result of a collaboration between the Department of Education and the Partnership of People with Disabilities.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual "I'm Determined" Youth and Parents Summit will be held June 19-21, 2013. Youth with disabilities from across the Commonwealth will meet to identify ways to become better advocates and lead more self-determined lives.</p> <p>Applications are due March 22, 2013, or whenever the first 200 qualified applicants are accepted.</p>



**MENTAL HEALTH/DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES** (continued)

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Virginia Commonwealth University	<p>The <b>Children's Mental Health Resource Center</b> at Virginia Commonwealth University opened in March 2011. The Center was founded by a coalition of organizations and individuals in the Greater Richmond community who came together with the goal of making it easier to navigate the complex system of mental health care for children. The coalition that established the Center includes public and private mental health care providers, major family advocacy groups, and parents of children who have received mental health services.</p> <p>The Center's programs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This website with information on childhood disorders, available treatments, and links to resources</li> <li>• An on-site library with educational materials in both English and Spanish, and a workstation for doing guided research on the internet</li> <li>• Family Navigators, a family-to-family peer support program in the initial stages of development</li> <li>• A pilot project that offers Referral Assistance services to families referred to the Center through a group of participating pediatric primary care practices in the City of Richmond</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>During 2012, VCU hosted a Virginia Early Childhood Mental Health Summit (September 18) and a Child Mental Health Symposium on October 12 "Unraveling the Mystery of Children's Mental Health; from Brains to Behavior." The latter featured a session specifically for medical practitioners working with youth. Patrick Tolan, director of University of Virginia Curry School of Education's Youth-Next, offered one of three keynotes on children's mental health.</p> <p>The Center offers regular therapy and support groups for young people and families.</p>
Voices for Virginia's Children	<p><b>Voices for Virginia's Children</b> is a statewide, privately funded, non-partisan awareness and advocacy organization that builds support for practical public policies to improve the lives of children. A recognized leader in child advocacy, Voices mobilizes support for initiatives by conducting research, developing policies, building coalitions, and helping people articulate their support for children.</p> <p>Voices' partners include the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Virginia, the Virginia Association of Community Services Boards, the Psychiatric Society of Virginia, the Virginia chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Virginia Poverty Law Center, Just Children, and FACES of Virginia Families.</p> <p>Voices' <b>Campaign for Children's Mental Health</b> is a coordinated effort to improve Virginia's child mental health system. The campaign brings together advocates, parents, treatment professionals, organizations and others whose goal is to make mental health services more available and accessible to children in need. Their "1 in 5 kids" campaign highlights the number of children in the U.S. not receiving the mental health treatment they need.</p> <p>The Campaign is led by a steering committee including National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Virginia, Mental Health America-Virginia, and the Virginia Association of Community Services Boards.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Campaign works to achieve several policy goals, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the array of community based services (both public and private), particularly intermediate services that avoid over-reliance on residential treatment.</li> <li>• Establish an integrated and consolidated system within state government with clear authority and adequate resources</li> <li>• Increase uniformity of the system statewide so that families throughout Virginia, regardless of the jurisdiction in which they live, can access appropriate services.</li> <li>• Enhance the training of the current workforce and the capacity of the future workforce to treat children with evidence-based, best practice services.</li> </ul> <p>The 2013 General Assembly responded to funding requests for children's mental health resources by allocating \$1.5 million for the first year and \$3.65 million for the second year to provide child psychiatry and crisis response services for youth with mental health and behavioral disorders.</p> <p>Voices works with its partners on a variety of events spotlighting children's mental health issues. In April 2013, the Campaign's coordinator will be the keynote speaker at a symposium addressing the behavioral needs of children in communities, <i>Together We Can... Creating a Caring Community for Our Children</i>.</p> <p>Voices staff will present to the Commission on Youth at its April 2, 2013 meeting.</p> <p>Detailed information on the policies and corresponding objectives is available at <a href="http://vakids.org">http://vakids.org</a>. Specific information about the Campaign is available at <a href="http://www.1in5kids.org">www.1in5kids.org</a>.</p>

**MENTAL HEALTH/DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES** *(continued)*

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth	<p>The <b>Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth</b> (VFHY) (formerly the Virginia Tobacco Settlement Foundation), has established Regional Advisory Boards to provide a local connection between VFHY and communities throughout the state. VFHY is funded through Virginia's share of the 1998 Master Settlement Agreement.</p> <p>Established by the Virginia General Assembly in 1999, the Foundation has historically led a statewide effort to reduce and prevent youth tobacco use. The 2009 General Assembly changed both the Foundation's name and expanded its mission to include reducing childhood obesity in the Commonwealth (HB 2456, O'Bannon/SB 1112, North am).</p> <p>The Foundation promotes healthy living habits to Virginia's children and adolescents through a variety of efforts, including: statewide educational prevention programs in schools, community centers and afterschool programs; youth-targeted marketing and advertising; funding research and enforcement of Virginia's tobacco access-laws.</p> <p>A Healthy Youth Day commemoration was established by the Virginia General Assembly and is sponsored each January 20 by the Foundation.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Regional Advisory Board Member</p>	<p>18 grants have been issued for the 2012-2014 project period, totaling \$1.2million in funding for Healthy Communities Action Team grants to prevent childhood obesity. These grants support and/or establish community coalitions that will utilize evidence-based best practices as identified by the Centers for Disease Control and the Institute of Medicine.</p> <p>In an announcement in late March, Secretary of Health and Human Resources Dr. Bill Hazel and the Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth (VFHY) reported that youth smoking rates in Virginia have plummeted to the lowest point in a decade. The percentage of high school students in Virginia who are regular smokers has declined by more than 55 percent – from 28.6 percent in 2001 to 13 percent in 2011, according to the results of the latest Virginia Youth Tobacco Survey. Smoking among Virginia middle school students declined by more than 70 percent during the same period, from 10.6 percent in 2001 to 3 percent in 2011.</p> <p>Further information is available at <a href="http://www.vfhy.org">www.vfhy.org</a>.</p>

**HEALTH**

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Joint Commission on Health Care	<p>The <b>Joint Commission on Health Care</b> (JCHC) was established as a standing commission of the Virginia General Assembly in 1992. JCHC seeks through its research, recommendations, and legislative actions to "ensure that the Commonwealth as provider, financier, and regulator adopts the most cost-effective and efficacious means of delivery of health care services so that the greatest number of Virginians receive quality health care." (Code of Virginia §§ 30-168 through 170).</p> <p>The Joint Commission is comprised of 18 legislative members. Eight members of the Senate are appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules and 10 members from the House of Delegates are appointed by the Speaker of the House. In addition, the Secretary of Health and Human Resources serves as a non-voting, ex officio member of the Commission. Senator Linda T. Puller chairs the Commission.</p> <p>JCHC has two standing subcommittees focusing on issues involving 1) Behavioral Health Care and 2) Healthy Living/Health Services.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking; Senators Harry Blevins and Stephen Martin and Delegates Robert Brink and Christopher Peace serve on the Commission.</p>	<p>In 2013, the JCHC will conduct the following legislative studies: untreated dental disease; implementation of expedited partner therapy; option for implementation of cost-sharing; the expansion of telemedicine for mental health services; factors affecting health care costs; and the needs of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder transitioning from secondary schools.</p> <p>The 2013 meeting calendar has not been finalized.</p>
Social Services	<p>Section 63.2-214.2 of the Code directs the Department of Social Services (DSS) to make information available about <b>Shaken Baby Syndrome</b> and resources for help and support for caretakers in a printable format, as well as in an audiovisual format, available to the public on its website. Further, DSS is directed to provide the information to every child welfare program required to be licensed at the time of initial licensure and to foster and adoptive parents and other persons, upon request.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>More information about shaken baby syndrome may be found at <a href="http://www.dss.virginia.gov/family/cps/shaken_baby.cgi">http://www.dss.virginia.gov/family/cps/shaken_baby.cgi</a>.</p>

## HEALTH (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Health	<p><b>Virginia Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems</b> (VECCS) functions as a statewide strategic planning workgroup with the purpose of supporting state maternal and child health agencies and their partner organizations in collaborative efforts to strengthen early childhood system of services for young children and their families.</p> <p>This public/private partnership is part of a five year initiative launched by the federal Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) to support states' efforts to build comprehensive early childhood systems.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Information on Early Childhood Health is available at <a href="http://www.vahealth.org/childadolescenthealth/EarlyChildhoodHealth/">http://www.vahealth.org/childadolescenthealth/EarlyChildhoodHealth/</a>.</p>
Prevention Connections	<p><b>Prevention Connections</b>, a Virginia-based 501(c)(3) organization since 2004, works with individuals and communities to achieve optimal health through tobacco-use and childhood-obesity prevention initiatives.</p> <p>Its Board of Directors consists of nine volunteer members, including three interlocking directors from the Board of Trustees of the Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth (VFHY).</p> <p>Working in collaboration with the Virginia Department of Health, the CDC and the VFHY, Prevention Connections is working on large-scale initiatives such as reducing smoking on college campuses and providing cessation services to parents of young children.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Conference Participant</p>	<p>In November 2012, Prevention Connections announced that the Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation had awarded the organization a \$95,000 grant to help reduce smoking and other tobacco use among mental health and substance abuse patients in Virginia.</p> <p>In April 2013, Prevention Connections will host its statewide Weight of the State conference. The conference will showcase the latest approaches in childhood obesity prevention and control. Attendees will gather to hear national, state and local experts discuss tactics for reducing and preventing obesity, including community-based approaches and policy changes. The keynote speaker will be David Zincenko, the author of <i>Eat This! Not That!</i></p>
Health/Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p><b>The Interagency Suicide Prevention Coordinating Committee</b> is comprised of representatives from the Departments of Health (VDH), Education, Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS), Aging, Corrections Education, Office of Chief Medical Examiner, CSBs, private and public agencies with an interest in suicide prevention, as well as the Commission on Youth. Its purpose is to advise the Department of Health (VDH) on its suicide prevention activities.</p> <p>The VDH Division of Injury and Violence Prevention's Suicide Prevention Program coordinates statewide training for school personnel, human service providers, faith communities and others on suicide prevention and intervention, including identification of persons at-risk of suicide, screening, counseling and referral.</p> <p>The Code contains policy addressing suicidal students in K-12 educational settings and institutions of higher learning.</p> <p>Suicide prevention programs are currently funded through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, pursuant to the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act, and the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Committee Member</p>	<p>Suicide prevention efforts in Virginia are a collaborative effort headed by VDH, which involve participants from many disciplines. The program was a recommendation of the Commission on Youth's Suicide Prevention Plan, <i>House Document 29</i> (2001).</p> <p>In recent years, DBHDS and VDH have organized and led a small stakeholder workgroup focused on suicide prevention across the lifespan in Virginia. Last year the workgroup surveyed CSBs to determine the extent of collaboration within Virginia communities around suicide prevention.</p> <p>Using this information, the workgroup convened seven regional summits in Virginia to provide information on suicide prevention resources and to support regional planning involving all participants.</p> <p>Currently, an interagency Steering Committee has been convened to guide the process of updating Virginia's statewide Suicide Prevention Plan. The Coordinating Committee's membership is being expanded to include broad representation from additional agencies and stakeholder groups.</p> <p>The Steering Committee's first meeting to address the plan's update was held on March 15, 2012. The Committee met most recently in February 2013.</p> <p>In addition to the committee's quarterly meetings, VDH has established a Work Group of local service providers: the Virginia Network for Suicide Prevention Coalitions. This group supports both new and existing suicide prevention efforts at the community level.</p> <p>An overview of VDH programs and resources is available at <a href="http://www.vahealth.org">www.vahealth.org</a>.</p>

**HEALTH** (continued)

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Medical Assistance Services	<p>The <b>Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP-PAC) Advisory Committee</b>, established by the 2005 General Assembly, works to improve outreach and enrollment of FAMIS and to provide input on policies, operations, utilization of services and the health outcomes of children in FAMIS and FAMIS Plus.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Advisory Committee meets quarterly.</p> <p>Subcommittees for Retention, Access, and Utilization meet periodically as needed.</p> <p>More information on FAMIS can be found at <a href="http://www.famis.org/index.cfm?language=English">http://www.famis.org/index.cfm?language=English</a>.</p>
Health	<p><b>Bright Futures Virginia</b> was developed in 2000 as a broad Department of Health initiative to address child and adolescent health. Convened as a public-private Advisory Board, Bright Futures was implemented as the state standard for child and adolescent comprehensive health care in 2001.</p> <p>Bright Futures' goals are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foster partnerships between families, health professionals, and communities;</li> <li>• Promote desired social, developmental, and health outcomes of infants, children, and adolescents;</li> <li>• Increase family knowledge, skills, and participation in health-promoting and prevention activities; and</li> <li>• Enhance health professionals' knowledge, skills, and practice of developmentally appropriate health care in the context of family and community.</li> </ul> <p>Since its inception, Bright Futures has been funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the direction of the Maternal and Child Health Bureau.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Healthy Virginians 2010 identified Bright Futures implementation as a strategy for achieving 18 of its 54 stated objectives.</p> <p>Bright Futures' guidelines for child health in Virginia support the national Healthy People promotion and disease prevention objectives for mothers, infants, children and adolescents. These guidelines were developed as a resource for child health professionals and ancillary staff, public and private insurers, health departments, community health centers, schools, child development programs, parents, educators, leaders of managed care organizations, and others.</p> <p>In cooperation with James Madison University and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Bright Futures has launched a website - <a href="http://www.healthyfuturesva.com">www.healthyfuturesva.com</a>, as well as a six-module web course "Promoting Child and Adolescent Health: Bright Futures and EPSDT."</p>
Health	<p>All state-funded early childhood home visiting programs have come together at the state level through the <b>Home Visiting Consortium</b>, which has as its goals to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examine the role of home visiting in improving the health and well-being of young children;</li> <li>• Review the current publicly funded Virginia home visiting services for pregnant women and families with children ages 0-5 years;</li> <li>• Increase local and state collaborative efforts in order to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of Virginia's home visiting services; and</li> <li>• Recommend changes in home visiting system which will improve birth outcomes and enhance early childhood development.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Information about the Home Visiting Consortium is available at <a href="http://homevisitingva.com">homevisitingva.com</a></p>
Health	<p>The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) <b>Commonwealth's Healthy Approach and Mobilization Plan for Inactivity, Obesity and Nutrition (CHAMPION)</b> works to prevent and control obesity and chronic diseases by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promoting healthy eating and active living;</li> <li>• fostering evidence-based strategies, systems and environmental changes which support health;</li> <li>• compiling and disseminating evidence-based and/or evidence-informed interventions which support health; and</li> <li>• developing partnerships and community led initiatives throughout Virginia.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Following VDH Family Health Services Review, the working document has been presented to the State Committee appointed by the Governor. The Obesity Reduction Plan is available in both summary and as a full report at <a href="http://www.vahealth.org">www.vahealth.org</a>.</p>

**HEALTH (continued)**

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Health	<p><b>Healthy Child Care Virginia</b> (HCCV) focuses on initiatives related to healthy behaviors in childcare. Its goal is to promote the healthy development of all children in child care, including those with special health needs, to increase access to preventive health services, and to create safe physical environments for children.</p> <p>Program objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting a safe and healthy child care environment for all children, including those with special health needs</li> <li>• Reducing the spread of communicable diseases</li> <li>• Reducing medically attended injuries</li> <li>• Increasing up-to-date immunizations</li> <li>• Increasing nutritional status</li> <li>• Improving knowledge among families and providers about the inclusion of special health needs children in child day care. This includes children with asthma, speech and other developmental disabilities, neurobehavioral needs (ADHD, ADD, etc.), nutrition and physical activity and other diagnosed conditions (i.e., diabetes)</li> <li>• Optimizing mental health for children</li> <li>• Increasing oral hygiene practices</li> <li>• Increasing the number of children with health insurance coverage</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>On its website, HCCV promotes a range of resources for child care.</p> <p>Further information is available at <a href="http://www.vahealth.org/childadolescenthealth">www.vahealth.org/childadolescenthealth</a>.</p>
Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority	<p><b>Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority</b> (VHWD) was established by the General Assembly to identify and address health workforce issues in the state and has nine core functions, as stated in the Code of Virginia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• assesses health workforce needs in Virginia;</li> <li>• sets priorities for the Area Health Education Center (AHEC) program;</li> <li>• informs the development of relevant health care workforce policy;</li> <li>• promotes strategies for health workforce pipeline development;</li> <li>• supports collaborations between communities, businesses, and social organizations to facilitate recruitment and retention efforts;</li> <li>• advocates reducing the student debt load of health professionals; identifies High Priority Target Areas (HPTAs) within each region of the Commonwealth; and</li> <li>• aims to create innovative health workforce development models.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The VHWD sponsored a Central Virginia regional meeting on July 23, 2012 which focused on building and strengthening the healthcare workforce across the state.</p> <p>Information about VHWD can be found at <a href="http://www.vhwd.org">http://www.vhwd.org</a>.</p>
Health and Human Services	<p>Since 1992, the <b>Virginia Board for Persons with Disabilities</b> is an executive branch state agency located within the Secretariat of Health and Human Services. The Board advises the Governor, the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, federal and state legislators, and other constituent groups on issues related to people with disabilities in Virginia.</p> <p>The Board's purpose is to engage in advocacy, capacity building, and systems change activities that contribute to a coordinated consumer and family centered, consumer and family directed, comprehensive system of services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that enable individuals with DD to exercise self-determination, be independent, be productive, and be integrated and included in all facets of community life. This is accomplished through outreach, training, technical assistance, supporting and educating communities, barrier elimination, system design/redesign, coalition development and citizen participation, informing policymakers, and demonstration of new approaches, services, and supports to community-based service delivery.</p> <p>The Board is organized into an executive committee and four standing committees: Community Integration, Community Living and Transportation, Employment and Education, and Advocacy and Outreach.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Each year the Virginia Board for People with Disabilities (VBPD) offers two training programs: one for rising high school juniors and seniors with disabilities (YLF), and one for parents of young children or self-advocates with developmental disabilities (PIP). Both programs require an application and references; they are limited in size, and are offered at no cost (including interpreters/personal care attendants) to those chosen to participate.</p> <p>Applications for the Youth Leadership Forum were due March 29, 2013. Information about the program can be found at <a href="http://www.vaboard.org">http://www.vaboard.org</a>.</p> <p>Applications for the Partners in Policymakers training program are due April 30. Information can be found at <a href="http://www.vaboard.org">http://www.vaboard.org</a>.</p>



## SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p>The 2012 General Assembly passed legislation (HB 271, Peace) establishes the <b>Substance Abuse Recovery Support Services Grant Program</b> to provide grants to recovery support services providers in the Commonwealth.</p> <p>The Governor amended this legislation, stating that the first and second enactments of this act will not become effective unless reenacted by the 2013 General Assembly. A reporting requirement adopted by the 2012 General Assembly is the only provision that was adopted.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The DBHDS submitted a report to the Governor by December 1, 2012 which identified all public or private organizations that may raise and disburse funds for substance abuse recovery support services in the Commonwealth.</p> <p>A list was developed by surveying numbers of community organizations statewide and resulted in the identification of 130 entities statewide.</p>
Secretary of Public Safety	<p>Administration of the <b>Office for Substance Abuse Prevention</b> has been transferred from the Governor to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (ABC) as part of HB 1291 (Gilbert, 2012). This move was a recommendation of the Commission on Government Reform and Restructuring in 2011. The legislation gives the ABC Board the duty to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) coordinate substance abuse prevention activities of agencies of the Commonwealth in such program;</li> <li>(ii) review substance abuse prevention program expenditures by agencies of the Commonwealth, and</li> <li>(iii) determine the direction and appropriateness of such expenditures. The Board is to cooperate with federal, state, and local agencies, private and public agencies, interested organizations, and individuals in order to prevent substance abuse within the Commonwealth.</li> </ul> <p>The Office has as a stated goal becoming a "a nationally-recognized leader in evidence-based prevention practice."</p> <p>The Office awards and administers federal grant funds apportioned to Virginia under the Governor's discretionary portion of Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (SDFSCA) funds allocated to Virginia by the U.S. Department of Education, under the <i>No Child Left Behind Act of 2001</i>.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Board must report annually by December 1 of each year to the Governor and the General Assembly on the substance abuse prevention activities of the Commonwealth. Its 2012 Annual Report details prevention efforts and coordination that have occurred since GOSAP transitioned to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, and is available at <a href="http://www.gosap.virginia.gov">http://www.gosap.virginia.gov</a>.</p> <p>With an emphasis on prevention and early intervention, the Office acts as a clearinghouse for the prevention-related training series communicated by sponsors to their office. GOSAP also offers conferences and single events on its "Calendar" page.</p> <p>Prevention training topics include child abuse and neglect, bullying, and suicide prevention, and violence prevention. Resources related to Substance Abuse are provided for parents, professionals and educators.</p>
Alcohol Beverage Control/Health/Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p>On the state level, <b>Community Coalitions of Virginia</b> (CCOVA) reflects partnerships on the state and local level to prevent substance abuse.</p> <p>The Coalition works collaboratively to prevent and reduce substance abuse and related risk factors in Virginia communities in ways that are measurable and that improve quality of life.</p> <p>CCOVA represents local groups of parents, prevention specialists, businesses, law enforcement, educators, faith-based groups, media, youth, healthcare, government officials, and youth-serving organizations.</p> <p>Coalition initiatives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create activities free from substance abuse and violence;</li> <li>• Prevent alcohol, drug, and tobacco use by youth;</li> <li>• Teach our children how to be safe and resist peer pressure;</li> <li>• Enhance our sense of family and community; and</li> <li>• Promote positive character development.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Further information on CCOVA initiatives is available at <a href="http://ccova.org">ccova.org</a>.</p>

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE** *(continued)*

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Alcohol Beverage Control	<p><b>Youth Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Project</b> (YADAPP) is a youth leadership program empowering teens to become involved in keeping their schools and communities alcohol and drug free. Each year YADAPP holds its Summer Leadership Conference for approximately 600 Virginia high school students and adults. Since 1984, YADAPP seeks to help teens change their lives through leadership opportunities.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The 29<sup>th</sup> Annual YADAPP Summer Leadership Conference will be held July 15-19, 2013, at Longwood University. The theme this year is Y-Guy Around the World.</p> <p>More information on YADAPP is provided at <a href="http://www.yadapp.com">www.yadapp.com</a>. YADAPP Guy can be "friended" via the official YADAPP Facebook page.</p> <p>ABC credits its "Do Not Sell" stickers with preventing underage sales. Last year, the compliance rate went up four percentage points to 90 percent compliance. The updated stickers, which are easy-to-read tools that help sellers check IDs, were created using two different colors, one for alcohol, one for tobacco. Bold colors make the dates clearly visible to consumers and sellers.</p> <p>Another compliance tool is the "Ask 4 ID" training video, a four-minute film to help sellers and servers prevent underage alcohol and tobacco sales ID. This is available for preview at <a href="http://www.youtube.com/vaabc">http://www.youtube.com/vaabc</a>.</p>
Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p>The <b>Substance Abuse Services Council</b> is an advisory council in the executive branch created by Code. Its purpose is to advise and make recommendations to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the State Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (BHDS) on broad policies and goals and on the coordination of Virginia's public and private efforts to control substance abuse, as defined in § 37.2-100.</p> <p>The Council consists of 30 members, including the affected agency Commissioners, four members of the House of Delegates, and two members of the Senate.</p> <p>The 2004 General Assembly amended the Code (§ 2.2-2697) to direct the Council to collect information about the impact and cost of substance abuse treatment provided by Virginia's public agencies and to include the following analysis for each agency-administered substance abuse treatment program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the amount of funding expended under the program for the prior fiscal year;</li> <li>• the number of individuals served by the program using that funding;</li> <li>• the extent to which program objectives have been accomplished as reflected by an evaluation of outcome measures;</li> <li>• identifying the most effective substance abuse treatment, based on a combination of per person costs and success in meeting program objectives;</li> <li>• how effectiveness could be improved;</li> <li>• an estimate of the cost effectiveness of these programs; and</li> <li>• recommendations on the funding of programs based on these analyses.</li> </ul> <p>The Council examines Virginia's publicly-funded substance abuse treatment services provided by the Departments of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS), Juvenile Justice (DJJ), and Corrections (DOC). These programs share the goals of abstinence or reduction in substance use in criminal behavior.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Delegate Crockett-Stark serves on the Council.</p>	<p>The Council meets at least four times each year. It was last scheduled to meet August 10, 2012. Council membership roster was published in February 2012 and is available on the DBHDS website.</p> <p>The Council's current annual report, <i>2012 Substance Abuse Services Council Response to Code of Virginia §2.2-2697.B</i>, was published in October 2012 and is available on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website. The report conducts an analysis for each agency-administered substance abuse treatment program, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the amount of funding expended under the program for the prior fiscal year;</li> <li>• the number of individuals served by the program using that funding;</li> <li>• the extent to which program objectives have been accomplished as reflected by an evaluation of outcome measures;</li> <li>• identifying the most effective substance abuse treatment, based on a combination of per person costs and success in meeting program objectives;</li> <li>• how effectiveness could be improved;</li> <li>• an estimate of the cost effectiveness of these programs; and</li> <li>• recommendations on the funding of programs based on these analyses.</li> </ul>

## EDUCATION/SOCIAL SERVICES

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Social Services	<p>The <b>Virginia Partnership for Out-of-School-Time</b> (VPOST) is a statewide public-private partnership dedicated to developing and expanding academic, social, emotional, and physical supports and services to school-age children and youth across Virginia during the out-of-school time hours – before-school, after-school, vacations periods, and summer.</p> <p>VPOST projects have the following intended benefits and outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increase graduation rates.</li> <li>▪ Boost students' academic gains.</li> <li>▪ Increase student engagement in learning.</li> <li>▪ Cultivate students' work-study habits.</li> <li>▪ Improve student behavior and social and emotional development.</li> <li>▪ Improve school and community connectedness.</li> <li>▪ Higher aspirations for college.</li> <li>▪ Support working families.</li> <li>▪ Build stronger connections among families, schools, and communities.</li> <li>▪ Reduce delinquent behaviors by occupying youth in positive behaviors during prime crime time.</li> <li>▪ Reduce abuse of alcohol, tobacco, and other substances by connecting youth to positive relationships and activities.</li> <li>▪ Businesses report reduced staff turnover, lowered absenteeism, and increased productivity where quality after-school programs are available.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Leadership Council Member</p>	<p>A core group of key stakeholders in Virginia began meeting in April 2009 to begin the process of identifying individuals with expertise in the field Out-of- School Time (OST). The goal was to bring together representatives from the governor's office, state education agency, child care, health, labor, youth development, juvenile justice, statewide associations, and the private sector to promote quality OST programs throughout Virginia through collaboration.</p> <p>Virginia is one of nine statewide afterschool networks from across the country selected to host Mayoral Summits on expanding access to afterschool programs and building citywide OST systems. The project, which is intended to strengthen ways that city and state leaders collaborate to provide these opportunities for youth, is supported through a partnership between the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and The Wallace Foundation.</p> <p>Each year, the national organization Foundations for a Brighter Future convenes the Beyond School Hours Conference, a gathering of education practitioners and leaders from across the country. The 2013 conference will be held February 20-23, 2013 in Jacksonville, Florida. The conference attracts educators, program directors, site coordinators, principals and superintendents, policymakers, researchers, community stakeholders, and funders.</p> <p>Further information on VPOST outreach is available at <a href="http://www.v-post.org/home.html">http://www.v-post.org/home.html</a>.</p>

## EDUCATION

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Commission on Youth	<p><b>Comparison of Academic Achievement in Virginia and in Leading Industrialized Countries</b>—During the 2011 General Assembly Session, the late Senator Yvonne B. Miller introduced Senate Joint Resolution 320, which directed the Commission on Youth to study how Virginia school children compare academically to students in other countries. The resolution directed the Commission to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• compare the academic achievement of Virginia's students with that of students internationally for the past five years, especially in reading, mathematics, and science;</li> <li>• identify features in the education systems of other countries that rank higher than the United States that may contribute to the academic success of their students;</li> <li>• determine whether any of these features may be adapted for use in Virginia and the cost of implementation;</li> <li>• determine whether and what changes in Virginia's public education system are warranted; and</li> <li>• consider other matters related to the objectives of this resolution and recommend feasible and appropriate options and alternatives.</li> </ul> <p>The Senate reported the resolution; however, members of the House Committee on Rules did not. Subsequently, the Commission on Youth adopted a two-year workplan for the study.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Commission on Youth Study</p>	<p>During Year 1, Commission on Youth staff compiled a country-by-country "snapshot" of other educational systems' attributes and best-practices. On December 19, 2011, the Commission heard a presentation "Comparison of Academic Achievement in Virginia and Leading Industrialized Nations" by Patricia A. Popp, Ph.D., State Coordinator, Project HOPE-VA, and Clinical Associate Professor, School of Education, College of William &amp; Mary.</p> <p>Year 2 study activities include review of data gathered during the first year, convening an Advisory Group of stakeholders to assist in process, and identifying international/national best practices which can be adopted in Virginia. The Year 2 study plan was approved by the Commission on Youth on May 14, 2012.</p> <p>An Advisory Group of education leadership and stakeholders, led by the Commission's Chair Delegate Chris Peace, held its first meeting on May 9, 2012. Patricia A. Popp, Ph.D., School of Education, College of William &amp; Mary, presented and participated as Advisory Group member. The Advisory Group met again on June 26 and October 2.</p> <p>An Interim Report for the study was published as <i>Report Document 218</i> (2012). The report in its entirety can be accessed on the Commission's website <a href="http://vcov.virginia.gov">http://vcov.virginia.gov</a>. Division of Legislative Information System website.</p> <p>In November 2012, the Commission on Youth Executive Director joined members of the School-University Partnership and other Virginia educators to learn how the PISA is developed, how teaching, learning and school administration in Finland has produced outstanding results and what can be applied to Virginia schools.</p> <p>The Final Report for the study is scheduled for publication in Spring 2013.</p>
Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission	<p>House Joint Resolution 646 (2011) directs the <b>Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission</b> (JLARC) to study the efficacy of year-round school. The study mandate notes that numerous benefits as well as concerns have been cited regarding this approach. The review is to identify schools or divisions in Virginia, other states, and countries that have experience with year-round schooling and consider the advantages and disadvantages that have been found. JLARC will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• review actual year-round school experiences; and</li> <li>• assess factors impacting desirability.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>JLARC's study was published in October 2012. As part of the study, JLARC staff analyzed school-level Standards of Learning (SOL) test data for Virginia nine test year-round elementary schools. The SOL test scores of the general population were similar at year-round schools and traditional calendar schools, which suggests that a year-round calendar does not necessarily improve the test scores of all students. However, certain student subgroups, in particular black students, were more likely to improve their SOL test scores at a faster rate at year-round schools. JLARC suggested that certain school divisions may want to consider using year-round calendars as a method to improve student achievement, particularly divisions with high percentages of the student subgroups that appear to benefit from year-round calendars.</p> <p>The full report is available at <a href="http://jlarc.virginia.gov/reports/Rpt430.pdf">http://jlarc.virginia.gov/reports/Rpt430.pdf</a>.</p>

**EDUCATION** (continued)

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Education	<p><b>Educator Fairness Act</b> (HB 2151, Bell, R.P./SB 1223, Norment) makes several fundamental changes to the processes by which teachers and certain administrators are evaluated. This Act requires teachers, assistant principals, and principals to be evaluated every year, either formally or informally, and that evaluations include student academic progress as a significant component and an overall summative rating. Additionally, the legislation allows local school boards to increase from three years to five years the term of probationary service required before a teacher becomes eligible for a continuing contract. Also, it changes the grievance procedure for teachers by giving local school boards the option to assign a grievance hearing to be heard by an impartial hearing officer designated by the local school board and by removing the option for a grievance to be heard in front of a fact-finding panel.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>This legislation was passed by the 2013 General Assembly and signed by the Governor.</p> <p>The Board of Education received a staff briefing on 2013 legislation at its February 28, 2013 meeting.</p>
Education	<p><b>Strategic Compensation Fund</b> (HB 2083/Cox, SB 1185/Vogel) creates a fund to award competitive grants to school divisions for the design and implementation of a supplemental compensation program for teachers that provide incentives tailored to each participating school division's strategic goals and objectives. Grants will allow school divisions to award incentive payments to effective teachers who meet the school division's strategic compensation criteria, or to reward effective teacher leaders who assume additional responsibilities or priority assignments.</p> <p>Item 139 of the Enrolled Budget Bill appropriated \$5.5 million in the second year to support this initiative.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>This legislation was passed by the 2013 General Assembly and signed by the Governor.</p> <p>The Board of Education received a staff briefing on 2013 legislation at its February 28, 2013 meeting.</p>
Education	<p><b>A-F School Report Cards</b> (HB 1999, Greason/SB 1207, Stanley) creates a pathway for the Department of Education to report individual school performance using a grading system as well as the standards of accreditation. The system will simplify the school accountability system to an easy-to-understand A-F grading system, which will help parents to fully understand the performance of their child's school, and will make school performance clear and easily communicated to the public.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>This legislation was passed by the 2013 General Assembly and signed by the Governor.</p> <p>The Board of Education received a staff briefing on 2013 legislation at its February 28, 2013 meeting.</p>
Education	<p><b>Teach for America Act</b> (TFA) (HB 2084, Cox, K./SB 1175, Ruff) recruits and trains the best and brightest recent college graduates from across the country to accept full-time teaching assignments in hard-to-staff schools. This legislation will allow TFA to operate in Virginia and to begin placing teachers in hard-to-staff schools starting in the 2013-2104 academic year.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>This legislation was passed by the 2013 General Assembly and signed by the Governor.</p> <p>The Board of Education received a staff briefing on 2013 legislation at its February 28, 2013 meeting.</p>
Education	<p><b>Red Tape Reduction Act</b> (HB 2098, Tata/SB 1189, Martin) strengthens the ability of school divisions to request waivers from the Board of Education from certain state requirements and to be released from Board-approved regulations and standards of quality requirements.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>This legislation was passed by the 2013 General Assembly and signed by the Governor.</p> <p>The Board of Education received a staff briefing on 2013 legislation at its February 28, 2013 meeting.</p>
Education	<p>Delegate Peace (HB 2066) and Senator Blevins (SB 1172) introduced legislation that allowed for <b>additional staffing and Standards of Quality (SOQ) flexibility for local school divisions</b>. This legislation permits local school divisions that employ a sufficient number of librarians, guidance counselors, and school-based clerical personnel to meet the staffing requirements that are prescribed in Standard 2 of the SOQs to assign librarians, guidance counselors, and school-based clerical personnel to schools within the division according to the area of greatest need, regardless of whether such schools are elementary, middle, or secondary.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>This legislation was passed by the 2013 General Assembly and signed by the Governor.</p> <p>The Board of Education received a staff briefing on 2013 legislation at its February 28, 2013 meeting.</p>



**EDUCATION** (continued)

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Education	<p>HB 2076 (Stolle) and SB 1131 (McWaters) eliminate the requirement that <b>local school boards originating a charter school application</b> must apply for authorization from the Board of Education and eliminate the process of receiving approval of the state Board, as well as the local board.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>This legislation was passed by the 2013 General Assembly and signed by the Governor.</p> <p>The Board of Education received a staff briefing on 2013 legislation.</p>
Education	<p><b>Reading is Fundamental Act</b> (HB 2144, Landes) allows a public elementary school with an adjusted pass rate of less than 75 percent on the third grade Standards of Learning reading assessment administered during the previous school year to apply to the Board of Education for a two-year waiver from the science or history and social science Standards of Learning assessment requirement, or both, for third grade students. Elementary schools must satisfy certain conditions to qualify.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>This legislation was passed by the 2013 General Assembly and signed by the Governor.</p> <p>The Board of Education received a staff briefing on 2013 legislation at its February 28, 2013 meeting.</p>
Education	<p><b>Algebra Readiness Initiative</b> (HB 2068, LeMunyon/SB 1171, Blevins) adds kindergarten and grades one and two to the requirement that local school divisions provide early intervention services to students in grade three who demonstrate deficiencies based on their individual performance on diagnostic reading tests. It also requires local school divisions to provide algebra readiness intervention services to students in grades six through nine who are at risk of failing the Algebra I end-of-course test as demonstrated by their individual performance on diagnostic tests.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>This legislation was passed by the 2013 General Assembly and signed by the Governor.</p> <p>The Board of Education received a staff briefing on 2013 legislation at its February 28, 2013 meeting.</p>
Education	<p><b>New and Existing Tax Credits</b></p> <p>The 2012 General Assembly (Senate Bill 131, Stanley) had established a credit beginning in taxable year 2013 for individuals, business entities, and corporations making monetary donations to nonprofit organizations providing education improvement scholarships to students whose family's annual household income is not in excess of 300 percent of the current poverty guidelines and certain students with disabilities, in order for them to attend nonpublic elementary or secondary schools.</p> <p>2013 legislation passed by the General Assembly expands the current Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit program and the Educational Improvement Scholarships Tax Credit. House Bill 1966, Massie and Senate Bill 1227, Stanley amended the provisions to effect the following:</p> <p>Increase the amount of Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit and Education Improvement Scholarships Tax Credit that may be issued to an individual during the taxable year and would clarify that the existing \$500 minimum donation requirement would apply on an individual basis. This bill would also clarify what type of accounting reports must be provided by neighborhood organizations and scholarship foundations.</p> <p>Provide technical amendments, including: allow tax credits for donations of marketable securities; clarify the definition of "student" for purposes of qualifying to receive scholarships from scholarship foundations; alter the time frame during which scholarship foundations must disburse at least 90 percent of the value of donations for which tax credits were issued; and clarify the deadlines for the annual reporting requirements for scholarship foundations, as well as specifying the information that must be reported. This bill would also make changes to the penalty provisions for the failure of a scholarship foundation to meet the requirements of this bill by the applicable deadlines</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Similar legislation (Senate Bill 1009, Stanley) would also make changes to the Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit.</p>

**EDUCATION** *(continued)*

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Education	<p>Senator McDougle (SB 1324) introduced legislation establishing the <b>Opportunity Educational Institution</b> to be administered and supervised by the Opportunity Educational Institution Board. It also requires any school that has been denied accreditation and permits any school that has been accredited with warning for three consecutive years to be transferred to the Institution and remain in the Institution for five years or until the school achieves full accreditation. Additionally, requirements for student attendance, staffing, and funding for the Institution are set forth.</p> <p>Item 134 of the Enrolled Budget Bill appropriated \$150,000 in the second year to support implementation.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>This legislation was passed by the 2013 General Assembly and signed by the Governor.</p> <p>In addition, Item 31 of the Enrolled Budget directs JLARC to study options for restructuring low performance schools. A final report will be completed by June 30, 2014.</p>
Education	<p>The Secretary of Education shall convene a <b>Modeling and Simulation Workgroup</b>, with the cooperation of the Secretaries of Finance, Commerce and Trade, and Technology, and the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Investment Authority, consisting of representatives from both Virginia's public and private higher education institutions and private industry to determine how to achieve certain goals, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capitalization and expansion of the Commonwealth's current modeling and simulation assets;</li> <li>• Identification of collaborative opportunities for applied research and commercialization throughout Virginia;</li> <li>• Leveraging of multiple resources supporting modeling and simulation efforts through a single source; and</li> <li>• The flexibility to accommodate rapid scenario development and teamwork among business and academic arenas.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>A report of the status of the workgroup's modeling and simulation activities and the resulting outcomes shall be given to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees by October 1 of each year.</p>
Secretary of Technology/ Education	<p>The Commonwealth's first <b>Governor's Cyber Challenge</b> will be held this fall to challenge Virginia high school students in skills related to the fast-growing industry of cyber security. The competition is free and open to all students who have an interest in computers, information technology, and cyber security.</p> <p>The challenge, which is hosted by the U.S. Cyber Challenge, the SANS Institute, and George Mason University, is intended to engage students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and introduce them to the much-needed technology skills that many 21<sup>st</sup> Century careers will require.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Governor McDonnell hosted the first annual Governor's Cyber Challenge Finals on March 2, 2013. The challenge invited all high school students in the Commonwealth to participate in a series of online cyber quizzes, with the top 40 students being invited to participate in a live championship competition at George Mason University. The program featured 110 schools, who registered 733 students for the challenge.</p> <p>Winners received scholarships in the amounts of \$5,000 for first place, \$3000 for second place, and \$1,500 for third place.</p> <p>More information can be found at <a href="http://www.technology.virginia.gov/CyberChallenge/index.cfm">http://www.technology.virginia.gov/CyberChallenge/index.cfm</a>.</p>

**EDUCATION** *(continued)*

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Education	<p>The <b>Virginia Board of Education</b> is the nine-member governing and policy-making body for the Virginia system of public elementary and secondary education. Its work touches all facets of education from accountability and evaluation to curriculum and teacher education.</p> <p>The Board's members are appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the General Assembly. Members are appointed to serve a term of four years, with no member appointed to more than two consecutive four-year terms.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Board of Education meets monthly. The Board posts an on-site video of highlights of each meeting, along with agendas and background materials, available at <a href="http://www.doe.virginia.gov">www.doe.virginia.gov</a>.</p> <p>At its January 10, 2013 meeting, the Board conducted final review of recommended cut scores for the end-of-course (EOC) Standards of Learning (SOL) tests in reading, earth science, biology, and chemistry based on the 2010 English and science standards, and adopted final cut scores. Additionally, the Board waived first review and rescinded its final adoption of the unexcused absences and truancy regulations, and approved the re-proposed regulations regarding unexcused absences and truancy to include additional public comment.</p> <p>At its February 28, 2013 meeting, the Board amended and approved the proposed revised Regulations Governing Local School Boards and School Divisions (8 VAC 20-720-170) and directed Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) staff to proceed with the next steps of the regulatory process under the Administrative Process Act. The Board also approved the proposal to establish a Governor's STEM Academy in Richmond County and the revised Computer Technology SOLs.</p> <p>The Board will also meet March 28, April 24-25, May 23, June 27, July 25, September 26, October 24, and November 21.</p>
Education	<p>The Board of Education would include in the annual <b>School Performance Report Card</b> for school divisions the percentage of each division's annual operating budget allocated to instructional costs, as a result of legislation passed by the 2012 General Assembly (HB 250, Cline), which requires that the Board of Education report annually to the House Committees on Appropriations and Education and the Senate Committees on Finance and Education and Health the percentage of each division's annual operating budget allocated to instructional costs for each fiscal year, as reported by each local school board.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Board of Education is soliciting feedback on the Report Cards and has partnered with the Center for Innovative Technology in their redesign. An on-line summary has been posted on the DOE website.</p>
Education	<p>The Board of Education's <b>Charter School Committee</b> is a standing committee which reviews any proposed public charter school application that has been submitted by the applicant to the Board of Education and comments on the application's feasibility, curriculum, and financial soundness.</p> <p>In accordance with the 2012 legislation, the Board revised its charter school application and the criteria for charter schools.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Board of Education Charter School Committee met on February 27, 2013. Two school applications were reviewed and public comment was received. The full Board will consider the report of the committee at its March 28 meeting.</p> <p>The Board of Education reports annually to the Governor and the General Assembly on charter schools and charter school applications. This is. The 2012 report (incorporated into the Board's Annual Report on the Condition and Needs of Public Schools in Virginia) is available at <a href="http://www.doe.virginia.gov">www.doe.virginia.gov</a>.</p> <p>Further information about Virginia's provisions for charter schools is available at <a href="http://www.doe.virginia.gov">http://www.doe.virginia.gov</a>.</p>

**EDUCATION** (continued)

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Education	<p>Established by the 2010 General Assembly as a policy board, the function of the <b>Open Education Curriculum Board</b> was changed to an advisory board by the 2012 General Assembly Session.</p> <p>In its expanded role, the Board will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• develop guidelines for the creation, collection, categorization, distribution and licensing of open educational resources and to recommend policies to the Board of Education which encourage creators and publishers of open education resources to collaborate on collecting, standardizing, and aligning such resources to the state's Standards of Learning;</li> <li>• Advise the Governor and General Assembly on open education policies having the potential to reduce the cost of textbooks and educational materials in the Commonwealth, while adding or maintaining value of the learning experience.</li> </ul> <p>The 10-member Board is comprised of one member of the Senate, three members of the House of Delegates, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Secretaries of Education and of Technology, and three gubernatorial appointees.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Delegate Peace serves on the Board.</p>	<p>The Board is required to report annually to the General Assembly and the Governor on activities of the Board. Its first-year report was published as <i>Report Document 388</i> in November 2011. Its second-year report was published in November 2012. These reports is available on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website.</p> <p>At the Board's October 22 meeting, it voted unanimously to accept several goals as a working document. Those goals were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop guidelines for the creation, collection, categorization, distribution, and licensing of open educational resources</li> <li>• Recommend policies to the Board of Education that are designed to encourage publishers of open education resources to collaborate on collecting, standardizing, and aligning such resources to the Virginia Standards of Learning</li> <li>• Report annually to the General Assembly and the Governor on activities of the Board</li> <li>• Advise the Governor and the General Assembly on open education policies that have the potential to reduce the cost of textbooks and educational materials in the Commonwealth while maintaining or adding value to the learning experience</li> </ul> <p>Meeting dates for 2013 have not been scheduled.</p>
Education	<p>The 2012 General Assembly (HB 756, Dance) authorized the Department of Education to establish an <b>Innovation Education Technical Advisory Group</b> to advise the Board of Education on matters related to charter schools, college partnership laboratory schools, and virtual school programs.</p> <p>The General Assembly appropriated \$100,812 for each year of the biennium to support the Innovative Education Technical Advisory Group to assist new applicants seeking to establish charter, college laboratory, or virtual schools in Virginia.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The 2013 Enrolled Budget Bill included an additional \$100,000 in Fiscal Year 2014 for the Group. Language was added which states that the Group will also support other instructional delivery or school models in Virginia.</p>
Education	<p><b>Critical Teacher Shortage</b></p> <p>Through the Virginia Teaching Scholarship Loan Program, undergraduate students who are Scholarship recipients and who meet eligibility criteria may fulfill their teaching obligation by accepting a teaching position in a school defined by the Board of Education (BOE) as having a critical teacher shortage.</p> <p>For purposes of the program, "critical teacher shortage area" means subject areas and grade levels identified by the Board of Education in which the demand for classroom teachers exceeds the supply of teachers, as defined in the Board's Regulations Governing the Determination of Critical Teacher Shortage Areas.</p> <p>As stipulated in Item 138-G.1 of the enrolled 2012-2014 Budget Bill, scholarship amounts are based on \$3,720 per year for full-time students (prorated for part-time students).</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Department of Education is required to report annually on the critical shortage teaching areas in Virginia. Its 2012-2013 report is available at <a href="http://www.doe.virginia.gov/teaching/workforce_data/shor tage_areas/2012-2013.pdf">http://www.doe.virginia.gov/teaching/workforce_data/shor tage_areas/2012-2013.pdf</a>.</p> <p>The top ten critical shortage endorsements for 2012-2013 are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Special Education</li> <li>2. Elementary Education preK-6</li> <li>3. Middle Education Grades 6-8</li> <li>4. Career and Technical Education</li> <li>5. Mathematics Grades 6-12 (including Algebra I)</li> <li>6. School Counselor preK-12</li> <li>7. Foreign Languages preK-12</li> <li>8. Science Grades 6-12</li> <li>9. English as a Second Language preK-12</li> <li>10. Health and Physical Education preK-12</li> </ol>

**EDUCATION** (continued)

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Education	<p><b>College Partnership Laboratory Schools</b> are designed to encourage cooperation and coordination between institutions of higher education and K-12 education. Established in Code by the 2010 General Assembly, the initiative is a component of the Governor's "<b>Opportunity to Learn</b>" education reform agenda.</p> <p>Legislation approved by the 2012 General Assembly (HB 765, Peace/SB 475, Locke) directs the Board to revise its criteria and application to make private institutions, as well as public, eligible to participate. Legislation also permits a collaborative partnership between the institution of higher education with a College Partnership Laboratory School and the public school division, which would be considered an educational program of the division for purposes of the Standards of Accreditation.</p> <p>The Code defines a College Partnership Laboratory School as "a public, nonsectarian, nonreligious school established by a public institution of higher education that operates a teacher education program approved by the Virginia Board of Education (Board)." Governing board members are selected by the institution of higher education establishing the School.</p> <p>Enrollment at a College Partnership Laboratory School is open at no cost to any school-age student who is a Virginia resident on a lottery, space-available basis.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>College Partnership Laboratory School are being developed to foster flexibility, innovation, and autonomy outside of the traditional public school system, thus giving students K-12 an opportunity to attend a school that best fits their individual learning style, be there a need for remedial help or advanced specialized study. Students attending lab schools can benefit from resources available to higher education institutions without the limitations or administrative constraints of more traditional schools.</p> <p>The Board of Education has a College Partnership Laboratory Schools Committee to develop procedures for receiving, reviewing and ruling on applications from Virginia public colleges and universities to establish laboratory schools.</p> <p>At the February 27, 2013 meeting, the Committee discussed George Mason University's application. The consensus report of the committee will be considered at the March 28 Board of Education meeting.</p>
Education	<p>State support for <b>Virtual School Programs</b> was promulgated by legislation passed by the 2010 General Assembly as a component of Governor McDonnell's "<b>Opportunity to Learn</b>" education reform agenda.</p> <p>The legislation expands the reach of virtual school programs such that students anywhere in Virginia can receive the services of highly qualified, Virginia-certified teachers without being limited by classroom walls. At-risk or disadvantaged students are afforded increased access to innovation and opportunities and this program also provides an alternative to students who might struggle in traditional classroom environments.</p> <p>Any Virginia college or university which operates an approved teacher education program can establish virtual school program partnerships with eligible public schools. Teachers working in these colleges/universities must be employees of those institutions and be licensed by the Board or eligible for such license.</p> <p>Legislation passed by the 2012 General Assembly (HB 1215, Bell, Richard P.) requires the Board of Education to promulgate regulations establishing standards of accreditation of public schools that enroll students full-time.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Criteria for approving and monitoring multidivision online providers were approved by the Board of Education on November 18, 2010. These ensure that Virginia students receive high quality educational services and that instruction and courses offered by multidivision online providers are aligned with the Standards of Learning (SOLs) and delivered by teachers fully licensed by the Board of Education.</p> <p>In the summer of 2011, DOE approved 13 Virtual-School Programs for use in divisions throughout Virginia. The approved "multidivision online providers" include full-time virtual schools, programs offering supplemental instruction, and blended-instruction programs in which students have a trained, on-site mentor in addition to an online teacher.</p> <p>The Board was briefed on the impact of this legislation at its March 22 meeting. On April 6, 2012, the Department Superintendent of Public Instruction announced approval of six additional virtual-school programs, bringing the total to 19 vendors approved as authorized "multidivision online providers."</p> <p>On May 24, the Board approved the Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) of Proposed Amendments to the Regulations Establishing the Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia (8 VAC 20-131) to Include Standards for the Accreditation of Public Virtual Schools, Pursuant to HB 1215 (2012), thus authorizing the Department to proceed.</p> <p>The NOIRA was published July 16, 2012. Public comment ended on August 15, 2012.</p>



**EDUCATION** (continued)

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Education	<p><b>Online Learning Opportunities</b>—Item 139 #14c of the 2012 Budget Conference Report directs that school superintendents are to submit to the Department of Education by August 15, 2012, “a brief description of the range of online learning opportunities currently underway in the school division and any being planned or under consideration in the future, if applicable.”</p> <p><b>Commission’s involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	The Board of Education received a presentation on this at the October 25, 2012 meeting, highlighting issues and challenges.
Education	<p><b>Licensure Requirement for Teaching Online Courses</b> Legislation passed by the 2012 General Assembly (HB 578, Bell, Richard P.) requires the Board of Education to prescribe by regulation the licensure requirements for teachers who teach only online courses. This license would be valid only for teaching online courses. Teachers who hold a 5-year renewable license issued by the Board may teach online courses for which they are properly endorsed.</p> <p><b>Commission’s involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<i>Amendments to the Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia</i> was published in the Virginia Register of Regulations on November 19, 2012. The Public Comment period ended December 19, 2012.
Education	<p><b>High Schools That Work</b> (HSTW) was originally created in 1987 by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) in partnership with an 11-state consortium, including Virginia. HSTW is the nation's first large-scale initiative to emphasize a program of study that includes both academic courses and modern career and technical studies to prepare students for a broad career field and further education.</p> <p>HSTW is a comprehensive approach to school improvement that complements the state’s educational goals. As a research and assessment-based reform initiative, HSTW is guided by a framework of goals, key practices, and key conditions to improve school practices, instruction, and student achievement. Its vision requires its stakeholders (administrators, faculty and staff, parents, leaders of community/civic organizations, representatives of business/ industry, and postsecondary education) to rethink school routines.</p> <p><b>Commission’s involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Virginia is one of 32 states participating in the Southern Regional Education Board's National HSTW Network. Currently, Virginia has eight of the more than 1,200 HSTW sites nationally.</p> <p>Information about HCTW, along with Network information &amp; Forms, publications and other resources, is available at <a href="http://www.doe.virginia.gov">www.doe.virginia.gov</a>.</p>
Legislative Services	<p>The <b>Advisory Council on Career and Technical Education</b> is mandated by Code Section 30-198 to recommend an integrated and coordinated multi-agency approach for delivery of quality career and technical education (CTE) programs and services in public schools.</p> <p>The legislative Council has as its powers and duties to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate the coordination of public school career and technical services, workforce training programs, and efforts among Commonwealth agencies and institutions;</li> <li>• Receive information and advice from state agencies, authorities and other organizations addressing CTE and workforce development as necessary;</li> <li>• Recommend policies, legislation, and funding that are needed to support CTE in the Commonwealth; and</li> <li>• Promote public-private partnerships and collaboration for CTE programs throughout the Commonwealth.</li> </ul> <p>The Council is an 18-member body of three Senate and five House of Delegates members, four gubernatorial appointees and ex-officio members from the Secretariats.</p> <p><b>Commission’s involvement:</b> Delegate Peace serves on the Council.</p>	<p>The Council is directed by Code to submit its recommendations annually to the Governor and the General Assembly. There are no reports posted on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website.</p> <p>No meetings have been announced for 2012. The Council has a sunset date of July 1, 2012.</p>

**EDUCATION** (continued)

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Education	<p>The <b>Virginia Advisory Committee for Career &amp; Technical Education</b> (CTE) is a standing committee of the Board of Education and is comprised of educators and representatives from the private sector.</p> <p>In partnership with the Virginia Department of Education Office of Career &amp; Technical Education Services, the 14-member Committee each year recognizes the outstanding work of one business/industry partnership and one advisory council/ committee for each of the eight Superintendent's Regions.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The October 11, 2012 meeting featured legislative update along with an update of state and federal CTE budget.</p> <p>The Committee met on January 23, 2013, and there was a presentation on the Governor's STEM and Health Sciences Academies. Upcoming meetings are May 30 and June 13.</p>
Education	<p><b>Know How Virginia</b> is an initiative of the Virginia Career Education Foundation (VCEF), in partnership with the Virginia Department of Education, Virginia Community College System, State Council of Higher Education, and the Virginia Employment Commission. Its public awareness campaign is designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Inform students and their parents, teachers, and counselors of rewarding career opportunities, particularly in high-demand and emerging fields;</li> <li>▪ Promote quality Career and Technical Education (CTE) in middle and high schools to support career exploration and preparation; and</li> <li>▪ Ensure a larger pool of qualified, motivated applicants for Virginia businesses and industries.</li> </ul> <p>The campaign has two components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ An <b>Umbrella Campaign</b> that provides basic information on careers, career exploration, and the benefits of CTE;</li> <li>▪ <b>Career-specific campaigns</b> underwritten by private-sector partners seeking to cultivate greater pools of qualified candidates for specific types of jobs.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>This public-private partnership is funded in part through contributions from Virginia businesses.</p> <p>The Governor's CTE Exemplary Standards Award recipients, who are selected with assistance from the VCEF, are acknowledged on the partnership's website. Also on the website are an overview of the program's activities and information about one-time events and ongoing programs available in each region or throughout the state.</p> <p>The application process for the 2013 CTE Student Organization Scholarships have been announced. Applications must be postmarked by January 18, 2013. One \$1,000 competitive scholarship will be considered for each of eight CTE related student organizations. Winners were announced on March 5, 2013.</p> <p>Additional information on the initiative and on careers most in demand is available at <a href="http://www.knowhowvirginia.org">http://www.knowhowvirginia.org</a>.</p>
Education	<p>Department of Education's <b>Mathematics and Science Partnership</b> grant competition, announced September 2011, invited school divisions and institutions of higher education to submit proposals to create partnerships that would provide professional development to teachers.</p> <p>The proposals are intended to support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• implementation of the 2009 Mathematics Standards of Learning and the Mathematics Performance Expectations, developed as part of Virginia's College-and-Career-Readiness Initiative;</li> <li>• implementation of 2010 Science Standards of Learning; and</li> <li>• integrated STEM related to the engineering design process, scientific methodology, mathematical problem solving and engineering applications.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>On September 14, 2012, the Superintendent of Public Instruction announced that \$1.7 million dollars would be available for new awards in Virginia. Proposals were required to address one of two priority areas: Virginia's 2009 mathematics SOLs or Virginia's 2010 science SOLs.</p> <p>More than \$1 million was awarded to five math projects across the Commonwealth. More than \$900,000 was awarded to five science projects and the Virginia STEM Collaborative Network was awarded \$500,000 to serve 174 teachers statewide. More information is available at <a href="http://www.doe.virginia.gov">www.doe.virginia.gov</a>.</p>

**EDUCATION** *(continued)*

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Education	<p>The <b>Virginia Center for Excellence in Teaching</b> will offer a series of residential summer professional development academies for exemplary teachers. The curriculum developed for the academies will incorporate national issues, current research, and trends in education aligned with the focus areas of instructional supervision, strategies for school improvement, addressing the learning needs of diverse populations, assessment practices and use of data to drive instructional decision making, grant utilization and partnership opportunities, and community outreach. The Center will incorporate experiential learning through exploration of case studies on educational policy and instructional leadership.</p> <p>To be eligible to attend the Center, teachers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold a teaching license issued by the Virginia Department of Education;</li> <li>• Have a minimum of 5 years of successful teaching experience;</li> <li>• Have a consistent record of effective instruction; and</li> <li>• Demonstrate leadership ability.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Department of Education will solicit competitive proposals for funding from institutions of higher education to create and operate the Center.</p>
Education	<p>The <b>Effective Schoolwide Discipline Initiative</b> is a statewide initiative to support positive academic and behavioral outcomes for all students. Virginia's ESD initiative is based on the accumulated research that documents the effectiveness of a multi-tiered system of positive behavioral interventions and supports. As of May 2012, 229 Virginia schools in 43 school divisions had participated in statewide ESD training.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>In August 2012, there were six preview meetings for superintendents, central office personnel, and principals in the eight superintendents' regions. Discussion at these meetings focused on the ESD initiative and upcoming training, in addition to highlighting the various roles of education personnel and the importance of the appointment of a school division coordinator. At the meetings, superintendents, central office personnel, and principals received an ESD Readiness Packet containing all the necessary information and timelines to apply for the next round of training in ESD.</p> <p>Dates for 2013 preview meetings have not yet been announced.</p> <p>Additional information on Effective Schoolwide Discipline can be found at <a href="http://www.ttac.odu.edu/esd/about.htm">http://www.ttac.odu.edu/esd/about.htm</a>.</p>
Education	<p>Provisions for <b>calculating high school accreditation status</b> were amended by the 2012 General Assembly Session (HB 642, Stolle/SB 51, Wagner) to require the Board of Education to adopt regulations adjusting the formula for calculating the final high school accreditation status to add points for each student obtaining a diploma and certain industry certifications, state licensure, or occupational credential. The additional points shall only improve the accreditation status of a school and cannot be used to obtain or deny accreditation.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Board of Education was briefed on the impact of this legislation and other 2012 General Assembly actions at its June 28, 2012 meeting. The Board approved the emergency amendments and the Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) for the changes set forth in the legislation. The regulations will take effect during the 2013-14 school year.</p>

**EDUCATION** (continued)

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Education	<p><b>Governor's STEM Academies</b> are designed to expand options for the general student population to acquire STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) literacy and other critical skills, knowledge and credentials that will prepare them for high-demand, high-wage, and high-skill careers in Virginia. STEM literacy is an interdisciplinary area of study bridging science, technology, engineering and mathematics.</p> <p>Governor's STEM Academies are intended to be a practical complement to academic year Governor's Schools. They may be new centers or existing ones where the standards are raised and efforts are refocused to align with Virginia's STEM goals. Courses may be held at a high school, technical center or community college campus or may be delivered online, or through other innovative methods. However, all programs must include opportunities for internships, job shadowing, mentorships, projects, service learning or a combination.</p> <p>Funding to support the initial planning and implementation of Governor's STEM Academies in Virginia was provided through a STEM grant from the National Governors Association.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>There are currently 17 academies in Virginia, each of which represents a partnership among school divisions, postsecondary institutions and business and industry.</p> <p>The Department of Education Office of Career and Technical Education Services publishes a monthly "Governor's STEM Academy Brief" which of this monthly brief is to provide information, resources, and a networking vehicle to support Virginia's STEM Academies. This is available on the Department's website at <a href="http://www.doe.virginia.gov">www.doe.virginia.gov</a>.</p> <p>Included in the January 2013 brief was the announcement that the New Commonwealth Governor's STEM Academy at Chantilly High School, Fairfax County, will open in 2013-2014. Currently, Cisco, Oracle and Microsoft dual enrollment courses are available at Northern Virginia Community College, Woodbridge campus. To date, 98 percent of the students enrolled in the Cyber Security program are participating in dual enrollment, saving nearly \$7,000 in course material and fees after high school. Students completing the Cisco, Microsoft and Oracle courses will be eligible to take appropriate credentialing exams leading to designations as Microsoft Certified Professional, Cisco Certified Network Associate and Oracle Database Manager.</p> <p>The February 2013 Brief highlighted information and resources to support networking efforts.</p>
Education	<p>The <b>Governor's Health Sciences Academies</b>, as part of the Governor's STEM Academy Program, shall provide expanded options for students' health science literacy and other critical knowledge, skills, and credentials that will prepare them for high-demand, high-wage, and high-skills health sciences careers in Virginia.</p> <p>The 2012-2014 Biennium included a provision of \$80,000 for the first year for one-time planning and implementation grants to support the establishment of these Academies.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>In spring 2012, the Department of Education solicited competitive proposals for funding from school divisions in each of the eight superintendents' planning regions. The Department of Education will award eight planning grants of \$5,000 each during the first semester of the 2012-2013 school year to support the program development process.</p> <p>Upon approval by the Board of Education to implement an Academy, in the second half of FY 2013, the Department of Education will award eight implementation grants of \$5,000 to each of the approved Academies.</p>
Education	<p><b>Physical Education Requirements in Public Schools</b></p> <p>The 2012 General Assembly passed legislation requiring the Board of Education to develop guidelines governing physical education in public (HB 1092, O'Bannon/SB 471, Northam).</p> <p>Regulations will be developed prior to January 1, 2014.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Board is working with the American Heart Association, the American Cancer Society, the American Academy of Pediatrics, VA Chapter, the Virginia Association of School Superintendents, the Virginia School Boards Association and other interested stakeholders in developing regulations.</p>

**EDUCATION** (continued)

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Education	<p>The Department of Education (DOE) administers the <b>21st Century Community Learning Centers</b> (Title IV, Part B) program funded through grants authorized under Title IV. The 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) program (Title IV, Part B of the <i>No Child Left Behind Act of 2001</i>) supports the creation of opportunities for academic enrichment during non-school hours for children, particularly students who attend high-poverty and low-performing schools. The program helps students meet state and local standards in core academic subjects, such as reading and mathematics; offers students enrichment activities that complement regular academic programs; and offers literacy and other educational services to the families of participating children.</p> <p>Through a competitive process, DOE funds projects that provide significant expanded learning opportunities for children and youth, and that will assist students to meet or exceed state and local standards in core academic subjects. DOE gives priority to applications that meet any or all of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint applications between at least one school division and at least one public or private community organization;</li> <li>• Propose to serve students in schools that either are Priority Schools, Conditionally Accredited Reconstituted or Accreditation Denied for the 2012-2103 school year;</li> <li>• Proposals to serve students in middle or high schools;</li> <li>• Proposals to serve students who attend schools with free and reduced-price lunch eligibility of 75% or greater.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Conference Participant</p>	<p>Professional development opportunities for 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC grantees are offered by DOE throughout the year. All 21st CCLC grants are awarded on a competitive basis. Applications are due to DOE by April 26, 2013.</p> <p>In February 2011, the Virginia Department of Education (DOE) announced the availability of 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) grant funds to be awarded to school divisions and eligible organizations. Applications for 21st CCLC competitive grant are due April 26, 2013.</p> <p>DOE will fund projects that provide significantly expanded learning opportunities for children and youth, and that will assist students in meeting or exceeding state and local standards in core academic subjects. Applicants eligible to submit a proposal for this competition are school divisions, nonprofit agencies, city or county government agencies, faith-based organizations, institutions of higher education, and for-profit corporations.</p> <p>The Department of Education sponsored a 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Conference in March 12-14, 2013 in Williamsburg.</p>
Education	<p><b>Student Behavioral Management Competency for Teachers and Aides who Work with Autistic Students</b></p> <p>The 2012 General Assembly passed legislation (HB 325, Massie) to require each school board to ensure that aides assigned to work with a teacher who has primary oversight of students with autism spectrum disorder demonstrate competency in student behavioral management within 60 days of assignment to such responsibility.</p> <p>Bill also requires the Board of Education to provide standards that school divisions may use to establish a measure for the demonstration of competency in student behavioral management.</p> <p>An enactment clause was added requiring the Virginia Board of Education, in consultation with Virginia Commonwealth University, to develop online training that school divisions may use to fulfill the requirements of this legislation. Such training must be made available to local school divisions free of charge.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Board of Education was briefed on this issue at its March 22, 2012 meeting.</p> <p>In January 2013, the Board of Education adopted training standards available to school divisions. More information about the available training can be found at <a href="http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special_ed/disabilities/autism/index.shtml">http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special_ed/disabilities/autism/index.shtml</a>.</p> <p>This requirement takes effect on September 1, 2014.</p>
Education	<p>Legislation passed by the 2012 General Assembly (HB 1179, Yost) allows a school board to provide its <b>character education program</b> during the summer in a youth development academy offered by the school division. The Department of Education would develop curricular guidelines for school divisions to use.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Board of Education approved the criteria for character education programs at its July 26, 2012 meeting. Local school divisions received a Superintendent's Memo dated August 31, 2012 detailing the criteria.</p>



**EDUCATION** *(continued)*

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Education	<p>The <b>Virginia Council on the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children</b> (Virginia Council) was created in §22.1-360 of the Code to assist in easing the transition of the children of military families into school as a result of frequent moves and deployment of their parents. Created by the 2009 General Assembly, Virginia joins other states participating in the compact.</p> <p>The mandated purpose of the compact is to remove barriers to educational success imposed on children of military families because of frequent moves and deployment of their parents by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitating the timely enrollment of children of military families and ensuring that they are not placed at a disadvantage due to difficulty in the transfer of education records from the previous school district(s) or variations in entrance/age requirements.</li> <li>• Facilitating the student placement process through which children of military families are not disadvantaged by variations in attendance requirements, scheduling, sequencing, grading, course content, or assessment.</li> <li>• Facilitating the qualification and eligibility for enrollment, educational programs, and participation in extracurricular academic, athletic, and social activities.</li> <li>• Facilitating the on-time graduation of children of military families.</li> <li>• Providing for the promulgation and enforcement of administrative rules implementing the provisions of this compact.</li> <li>• Providing for the uniform collection and sharing of information between and among member states, schools, and military families under this compact.</li> <li>• Promoting coordination between this compact and other compacts affecting military children.</li> <li>• Promoting flexibility and cooperation between the educational system, parents, and the student in order to achieve educational success for the student.</li> </ul> <p>The Virginia Council is comprised of one member of the House of Delegates, one member of the Senate, four nonlegislative citizen members, including the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the superintendent of a school district with a high concentration of military children, and the Governor or his designee.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>At its December 6, 2012 meeting, the Council received an update on the Virginia High School League eligibility requirements for military children.</p> <p>The Council's first meeting of 2013 was scheduled for early March but was postponed due to inclement weather. A new meeting time has not been posted.</p> <p>Interested persons can access recorded videos of the Virginia Council's meetings, as well as viewing agendas and minutes. Program information, along with resources for parents and caregivers, is available at <a href="http://www.doe.virginia.gov">http://www.doe.virginia.gov</a>.</p>
Virginia Commonwealth University	<p>Virginia, through Virginia Commonwealth University, has joined 24 states and the District of Columbia to conduct <b>Family Impact Seminars</b>. These are a non-partisan, research-based seminar series designed to highlight the implications that public issues, policies or programs have for families. Introduced in Wisconsin in 1993, state-level seminars have proven to be an effective venue to make academically generated research findings more accessible to and more meaningful for legislators, legislative staff, Governor's office staff, and agency representatives.</p> <p>Using the national model, VCU faculty, community leaders, and a bi-partisan team of legislative members have partnered to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ identify the most compelling and timely family related state-level problems; and</li> <li>▪ sponsor topic-specific annual seminars that address these problems with solution-oriented research.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Event Co-sponsor</p>	<p>The 2013 Family Impact Seminar will be held on May 21 in Richmond. The topic will be Military Families.</p>

**EDUCATION** (continued)

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Education	<p><b>Policies for the Possession and Administration of Epinephrine</b>  The 2013 General Assembly (HB 1468, Greason/SB 893, Howell) added employees of local governing bodies and employees of local health departments to the lists of individuals who are permitted to possess and administer epinephrine and not be held liable for civil damages when certain conditions are met. The bill also requires local school boards to include in policies for the possession and administration of epinephrine a provision adding any employee of a local governing body or an employee of a local health department who is authorized by a prescriber and trained in the administration of epinephrine to administer the drug to any student believed to be having an anaphylactic reaction. The bill includes an emergency clause making it effective upon passage.</p> <p>This legislation follows action by the 2012 General Assembly which required local school boards to adopt and implement these policies in Virginia's public schools. The biennial budget allocates \$200,000 to support the purchase of epinephrine injectors for public schools in Virginia during the 2012-2013 school year.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>State-level policies for the recognition and treatment of anaphylaxis in the school setting will be developed by the Department of Health, in conjunction with the Department of Education and the Department of Health Professionals.</p> <p>Local school boards are required to adopt and implement policies for the possession and administration of epinephrine in every school. These will take effect at the start of the 2012-2013 school year. Bills passed by the 2013 General Assembly are pending Reconvened Session.</p>
Education	<p><b>Project HOPE</b> is Virginia's program for the education of Homeless Children and Youth. The College of William and Mary administers the program for the Department of Education. Funding is authorized under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act, Title X, Part C of the <i>No Child Left Behind Act</i> (P.O. 107-110).</p> <p>Virginia Local Education Authorities (LEAs) receiving McKinney-Vento grant include:  Accomack and Albemarle Counties; Arlington and Charlottesville City; Colonial Beach, Fairfax, Fauquier, Henrico and Loudoun Counties; Lynchburg and Manassas Cities; Montgomery County; Newport News and Norfolk; Nottaway County, Portsmouth City, Prince William County, Roanoke and Richmond Cities, Stafford County, Virginia Beach City and Wise County Public Schools.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The program monitors the impact of mortgage foreclosure, increases in food prices and other economic issues on homeless children and youth.</p> <p>Additional LEAs receive American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funds.</p>
Education	<p>The <b>I'm Determined Project</b> is the result of a collaboration between the Department of Education and the Partnership of People with Disabilities.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual I'm Determined Youth and Parents Summit will be held June 19-21, 2013. Youth with disabilities from across the Commonwealth will meet to identify ways to become better advocates and lead more self-determined lives.</p> <p>Applications are due March 22, 2013, or whenever the first 200 qualified applicants are accepted.</p>

## JUVENILE JUSTICE

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Commission on Youth	<p><b>Assessment of Mental Health Needs of Juvenile Offenders</b></p> <p>During the 2013 General Assembly Session, Senator Jill Holtzman Vogel introduced Senate Bill 928, which would require juveniles being considered for commitment who had an identified mental health need to be referred to an interdisciplinary committee and for the committee to submit a report, unless an interdisciplinary team had met on the juvenile's case within the preceding 90 days.</p> <p>The proposed legislation would require the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court to consider the evaluation when determining whether the juvenile will be committed to the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ).</p> <p>Senate Courts of Justice Committee reviewed the bill and determined that further study would be appropriate, requesting the Commission on Youth to study the provisions set forth in Senate Bill 928 and to report findings and recommendations to the Committee by November 1, 2013.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Commission on Youth Study</p>	<p>The study plan will be presented to the Commission on Youth at its meeting on April 2, 2013. At that time, the Commission will vote on its adoption.</p>
Juvenile Justice	<p>In 1995, the Virginia General Assembly passed the <b>Virginia Juvenile Community Crime Control Act</b> (VJCCCA) "to establish a community-based system of progressive intensive sanctions and services that correspond to the severity of offense and treatment needs."</p> <p>The purpose of VJCCCA is "to deter crime by providing immediate, effective punishment that emphasizes accountability of the juvenile offender for his actions as well as reduces the pattern of repeat offending" and is meant to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be a community-based system;</li> <li>• Be made up of progressive intensive sanctions and services;</li> <li>• Correspond with the severity of the offense and treatment needs; encourage communities to develop, implement, operate and evaluate programs and services responsive to juvenile offender needs and crime trends in their community;</li> <li>• Provide an adequate level of services available to every Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court;</li> <li>• Allow local autonomy and flexibility in addressing juvenile crime;</li> <li>• Encourage public and private partnership in the design and delivery of services;</li> <li>• Emphasize parental responsibility, through services that hold juveniles and families accountable for their behavior;</li> <li>• Facilitate a locally driven statewide planning process for allocating state resources; and</li> <li>• Provide adequate service capacity</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Item 1-408 E of the 2013 Enrolled Budget Bill appropriates funding for VJCCCA. It also directs the Department of Juvenile Justice, with the assistance of the Department of Correctional Education, the Department of Corrections, the Virginia Council of Juvenile Detention, juvenile court service unit directors, juvenile and domestic relations district court judges, and juvenile justice advocacy groups, to provide a report on the types of programs supported by the VJCCCA and whether youth participating in such programs are statistically less likely to be arrested, adjudicated or convicted, or incarcerated for either misdemeanors or crimes that would otherwise be considered felonies if committed by an adult.</p> <p>Additionally, the Department of Juvenile Justice must also include in its annual report the progress of VJCCCA programs, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of juveniles served;</li> <li>• The average cost for residential and nonresidential services;</li> <li>• The number of employees; and</li> <li>• Descriptions of the contracts entered into by localities.</li> </ul>
Juvenile Justice	<p><b>Post-Dispositional Detention Practices</b></p> <p>Item 408-G of the 2012-2014 Biennium directs the Department of Juvenile Justice to review current practices in the post-dispositional detention program and consider potential options for expansion of the program, including incentives for increased participation by local and regional juvenile detention facilities and increased use of detention beds for holding state-responsible juvenile offenders as an alternative to the use of state facilities.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Copies of the review, including any suggested legislation, shall be provided to the Secretary of Public Safety and the Chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees by September 1, 2013.</p>

**JUVENILE JUSTICE** *(continued)*

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
State Crime Commission	<p>The <b>Virginia State Crime Commission</b> is a criminal justice agency established in the legislative branch of government in the Code of Virginia.</p> <p>The purpose of the Commission is to study, report and make recommendations on all areas of public safety and protections.</p> <p>The Commission makes recommendations as it deems appropriate with respect to the foregoing matters, and coordinates the proposals and recommendations of all commissions and agencies as to legislation affecting crimes, crime control and criminal procedure.</p> <p>The Commission cooperates with the executive branch of state government, the Attorney General's Office and the judiciary who are, in turn, encouraged to cooperate with the Commission. The Commission also cooperates with governments and governmental agencies of other states and the United States.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking; Delegate Beverly Sherwood serves on the Commission.</p>	<p>Further information is available at <a href="http://vscc.virginia.gov/index.asp">http://vscc.virginia.gov/index.asp</a>.</p>
Board of Juvenile Justice	<p>The <b>Board of Juvenile Justice</b>, as specified in the Code, consists of seven members appointed by the Governor. The Board governs the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). Appointments are subject to confirmation by the General Assembly.</p> <p>As set forth by §66-10 of the Code, Board responsibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• develop and establish programmatic and fiscal policies governing the operation of programs and facilities for which the Department is responsible under this law;</li> <li>• ensure the development and implementation of a long-range youth services policy;</li> <li>• review and comment on all budgets and requests for appropriations for the Department prior to their submission to the Governor and on all applications for federal funds;</li> <li>• monitor the activities of the Department and its effectiveness in implementing the policies of the Board;</li> <li>• advise the Governor, Director and the General Assembly on matters relating to youth services;</li> <li>• promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this title and other laws of the Commonwealth administered by the Director or the Department;</li> <li>• ensure the development of programs to educate citizens and elicit public support for the activities of the Department; and</li> <li>• establish length-of-stay guidelines for juveniles indeterminately committed to the Department and to make such guidelines available for public comment.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Board typically meets five times each year, most recently on January 8, 2013. At this meeting, the certification reports of several secure juvenile detention centers were discussed and approved. Other issues were also discussed.</p> <p>Board meeting minutes are available at <a href="http://www.djj.virginia.gov">www.djj.virginia.gov</a>.</p>
Juvenile Justice	<p><b>Correctional Education Restructure</b></p> <p>Legislation passed by the 2012 General Assembly (HB 1291, Gilbert) created a Division of Correctional Education within the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ).</p> <p>Eliminating the larger Department of Correctional Education (adults and juvenile students) is intended to create efficiencies and savings by streamlining the administration of education for residents at DJJ, as well as inmates at the Department of Corrections. This merger was a recommendation of the Commission on Government Reform and Restructuring in 2011..</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>As a part of the Governor's Reform and Restructuring Plan for state government, the Department of Correctional Education has been consolidated with the Department of Corrections and/or Department of Juvenile Justice. This consolidation was finalized on July 1, 2012.</p> <p>Department Director Mark Gooch presented on the merger at the Commission on Youth meeting on October 17, 2012.</p>

**JUVENILE JUSTICE** *(continued)*

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Juvenile Justice	<p><b>Juvenile Justice Apprenticeship Program</b></p> <p>Item 410 of the 2012-2014 Biennium directed the Department to assess the feasibility of creating a juvenile justice apprenticeship program for the purpose of recruiting, training and employing students who may be interested in pursuing careers in the juvenile justice system, and who would be employed as apprentice juvenile correctional officers or related positions, as a potential strategy to assist the department in filling its current vacancies or supplementing existing staff.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	Budget language directed the Department to provide a report on its findings and any recommendations by October 1, 2012, to the Secretary of Public Safety and the Chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees. This report is available on Virginia's Legislative Information Services website, <a href="http://www.lis.virginia.gov">www.lis.virginia.gov</a> .
Juvenile Justice	<p>Item 405.05 of the 2012-2014 Biennium directs the Department of Juvenile Justice, with the assistance of the Department of Education, to complete a program review and staffing analysis to determine the appropriate <b>teaching staff ratios</b> for state-operated juvenile correctional centers and local and regional juvenile detention facilities.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	The review and analysis shall be provided to the Secretaries of Public Safety and Education and to the Chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees by September 1, 2013.
Juvenile Justice	<p>The <b>Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument</b> (YASI) assesses risk, needs and protective factors and helps develop case plans for youth. The YASI includes a brief "pre-screening" version that arrives at an overall risk level as well as separate risk scores for legal history and social history (e.g., family, school and other adjustment domains). Much of the information for the YASI pre-screen is available from the JTS system and the remainder from a brief interview with the youth and/or family. The pre-screen generates a risk score on a four-point scale from No Risk through High Risk.</p> <p>The full YASI instrument examines and generates risk and protective scores for each of 10 domains, as well as overall risk classifications. These domains are legal history, family, school, community and peers, alcohol and drugs, mental health, aggression, (pro- and anti-social) attitudes, (social and cognitive) skills, and employment and free time. The full YASI will be employed for pre- and post-dispositional reports and case planning activities.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>On July 1, 2010, the YASI became the required risk assessment tool for all court service units (CSUs).</p> <p>Further information is available at <a href="http://www.djj.virginia.gov/Initiatives/YASI.aspx">http://www.djj.virginia.gov/Initiatives/YASI.aspx</a>.</p>
Criminal Justice Services	<p>In 1998 an Executive Order created the <b>New Partnership Commission for Community Safety</b>, charged with the responsibility of advising the Governor on new initiatives to "promote community safety, particularly youth and family safety." The Commission assessed the needs of localities across the Commonwealth and assisted them in addressing their individual community safety issues.</p> <p>The Commission asked the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to recommend programs that foster the development of community safety initiatives at the local level. DCJS proposed, and the Commission approved, the Certified Crime Prevention Community Program. Based on a study conducted by the Virginia State Crime Commission in 1993, the goal of the program is to publicly recognize and certify localities that have implemented a defined set of community safety strategies as part of a comprehensive community safety/crime prevention effort.</p> <p>One of the first of its kind in the nation, the program is directed by DCJS' Juvenile Services Division. The program encourages localities to develop and implement collaborative community safety plans within a flexible framework designed by the Commission. Furthermore, it provides an ongoing process by which communities can reassess and update their plans to address emerging community safety issues. To obtain certification, a locality must meet 12 core community safety elements/strategies augmented by a minimum of seven approved optional elements.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	A calendar of training events and further information about the planning process is available at <a href="http://www.dcjs.virginia.gov">www.dcjs.virginia.gov</a> .



**JUVENILE JUSTICE** *(continued)*

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Criminal Justice Services	<p><b>Virginia Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice</b> is a 27-member group comprised of representatives of partner agencies and organizations from the juvenile justice, court services, criminal justice, law enforcement, social services, and behavioral health professions. The Committee includes one House of Delegates and one Senate of Virginia member.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	Committee meetings are scheduled by the Department of Criminal Justice Services.
State and Local Juvenile Justice Agencies	<p><b>Virginia Council on Juvenile Detention</b> (VCJD) assists the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) in developing standards, certification and evaluation related to detention programs and facilities. VCJD provides information and input to DJJ to aid in the formulation of detention policies and suggests improvements and/or modifications. VCJD also facilitates the collection and dissemination of information related to juvenile detention.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Council meets quarterly and will meet next in March 2013.</p> <p>The Council approves the three-year plan, most recently published in 2009.</p>
Juvenile Justice	<p>Founded in 1966, the <b>Virginia Juvenile Justice Association</b> is administered by an elected board of directors comprised of professionals from court services, Department of Juvenile Justice Administration, indigent defense, the judiciary, secure detention, juvenile correctional facilities, halfway houses, group homes, private providers and others with an interest in youth and family services. The Association, which participates as a member of the Virginia Juvenile Justice Coalition, is committed to child advocacy and advancing its members' professional interests and competencies.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	The Association now has a Facebook group to provide an online forum for juvenile justice professionals to share information about recent articles and upcoming events. Information is available at <a href="http://www.thevjja.org">www.thevjja.org</a> .
Criminal Justice Services/Juvenile Justice	<p>The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) is the state agency in the Commonwealth that monitors the compliance requirements established by the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) with respect to <b>Disproportionate Minority Contact</b> (DMC). The Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) strives to remove possible bias and promote consistency in our decision making processes to ensure equal and fair treatment for all youth regardless of race or ethnicity.</p> <p>As background:</p> <p>OJJDP, which falls under the U.S. Department of Justice, has as its mission providing national leadership, coordination, and resources to prevent and respond to juvenile delinquency and victimization is the agency which provides and updates the definition of DMC: In October of 2002 OJJDP changed <i>Disproportionate Minority Confinement</i> to <i>Disproportionate Minority Contact</i>. DMC is now considered to exist when the racial or ethnic proportion of youth who have contact with the juvenile justice system exceeds their proportions in the general population. Contact refers to each decision point in the juvenile justice system: arrest (initial legal encounters with law enforcement), diversion, detention, issuance of a petition, referral to juvenile court, placement on probation/parole, placement in a juvenile correctional center, referral to circuit court and treatment as an adult, etc. The scope of DMC has broadened from just issues of confinement in secure settings to each contact a youth has with the juvenile justice system.</p> <p>Since 1988 OJJDP has required that states receiving federal money must address their efforts to reduce DMC and in 1992 if a state failed to comply with that requirement they would risk losing 25% of their funding; in 2002 the penalty was reduced to 20%.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	DCJS is sponsoring Virginia's 7th Annual Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Conference on April 18 at Virginia State University, Colonial Heights. The conference theme — "Sustainable Justice: A Holistic Look at Reentry" — was selected to provide focus on ways to continue the Governor's reentry initiatives and further the dialog on solutions.
Criminal Justice Services	<p>The <b>Virginia Spirit of Youth Award</b> is sponsored by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) and the Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice (ACJJ). The award recognizes a young adult who has made great strides following involvement with the juvenile justice system; has overcome personal obstacles; and is making significant contributions to society.</p> <p>The award also provides DCJS, the ACJJ, and the public with an important opportunity to learn from a young person's direct experience about the hard work and dedication it takes to build a better life, and how juvenile justice professionals and systems can most effectively be of help.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	Nominations for the award are received from a statewide constituency.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Social Services/ Education/ Labor and Industry	<p><b>Human Trafficking</b> legislation has been passed most recently by the 2013 and 2012 General Assemblies.</p> <p>Legislation passed during the 2013 General Assembly Session (HB 2061, Bullova) provides that any employer who operates a truck stop and who fails to post a notice, in the same location where other employee notices required by state or federal law are posted, of the existence of a <b>human trafficking hotline</b> is subject to a civil penalty of \$100. A civil penalty shall not be assessed until after 72 hours' notice of such failure. No such civil penalties shall be assessed prior to January 1, 2014. The measure also clarifies that civil penalties are to be assessed by the Department of Labor and Industry.</p> <p>The 2012 General Assembly (HB 1188, Watts/SB 259, Ebbin) requires the Board of Education, with assistance from the Department of Social Services, to provide awareness and training materials for local school divisions on human trafficking, including strategies for the prevention of trafficking of children.</p> <p>The Virginia Department of Social Services, Office of Newcomer Services has been charged with the responsibility of facilitating the work of a steering committee and three workgroups.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Workgroup member</p>	<p>A Superintendent's Memo was sent out on May 2, 2012 on 2012 General Assembly action.</p>
Office of the Attorney General	<p><b>Virginia's Anti-Bullying Initiative</b> is the vehicle through which the Attorney General's Office (OAG) provides public education on the topic of bullying and its ramifications, many of which have a basis in the Code of Virginia. Included in the categories which are addressed on the OAG website is Cyberbullying as a new phenomenon reflecting a proliferation of electronic devices for communication</p> <p>Also addressed is Virginia law which holds students to a model practice, and allows the local School Board to use disciplinary measures if a student violates the model practice. (§ 18.2-60)</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The website outlines behaviors associated with bullying which can result in punishment under Virginia law, including: Threat; Extortion, Assault or Assault and Battery, Hazing, Malicious Wounding and Harassment by Computer.</p> <p>The following information is available on the OAG website—<a href="http://www.oag.state.va.us">http://www.oag.state.va.us</a>.          Bullying Facts          Is Bullying a Problem?          Tips and Resources for Parents          Anti-Bullying PSA filmed with Miss Virginia 2011</p>
Education	<p><b>Local School Divisions' Antibullying Policies</b></p> <p>Legislation adopted by the 2011 General Assembly required the Department of Education (DOE) to study existing student codes and make recommendations to the Board of Education, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) review and compare antibullying measures in the student codes of conduct from each school division;</li> <li>(ii) compare existing policies with the Department's model policy for codes of student conduct, and</li> <li>(iii) determine if improvements to existing policies are warranted, in order to more effectively combat bullying in Virginia's public schools.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Study findings and recommendations are published as <i>House Document 7 (2012), Study of the Nature and Effectiveness of Local School Divisions' Antibullying Policies</i>. The report is available on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website.</p> <p>From this study, DOE made two recommendations which were approved by the Board and subsequently undertaken by the Department:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a model comprehensive antibullying policy, using the ten best practice components identified in the study; and</li> <li>• Provide technical assistance and training for school divisions and schools in best policies, practices and procedures for implementing evidence-based bullying prevention and responding to bullying incidents.</li> </ul> <p>The Board of Education was brief on this at its February 28, 2013 meeting.</p> <p>Department initiatives are described at <a href="http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/prevention/bullying/index.shtml">http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/prevention/bullying/index.shtml</a>.</p>

## PUBLIC SAFETY (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Criminal Justice Services/Virginia State Police	<p>In 2010, the Virginia General Assembly passed legislation creating the <b>Internet Crimes Against Children Fund</b> (ICAC), which seeks to enhance investigation and prosecution of internet crimes against children.</p> <p>The law, effective July 1, 2010, provided for assessment of a \$10 fee as part of court costs on all felony and misdemeanor convictions. Monies collected establish a grant program to give law enforcement additional resources to confront the ongoing problem of online child victimization and child pornography. The Fund may be used to support the salary and benefits for an ICAC- dedicated investigator to conduct investigations related to ICAC affiliated cases or to support the salary and benefits for an ICAC-dedicated forensic examiner to conduct forensic exams exclusively on affiliated cases.</p> <p>The Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) is the administering agency for the Fund.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>In December 2011, DCJS announced the availability of grant funds for FY13. The grant period for the competitive, non-matching grants of up to \$25,000 runs concurrent with the state fiscal year. Current grants run through June 30, 2013.</p> <p>Operation Blue Ridge Thunder was established in 1998, through the Bedford County Virginia Sheriff's Office, to serve as a cooperative group of law enforcement agencies at all levels of government. Its mission is to safeguard children from Internet crime by weaving a seamless web of protection around them. Blue Thunder has grown into the Southern Virginia ICAC Task Force, which includes investigators from 77 law enforcement agencies. The Safe Surfin' Foundation, founded in 2000, provides public education about online predators.</p> <p>As of February 2012, law enforcement affiliate members of the Southern Virginia ICAC Task Force and the Northern Virginia-DC ICAC Task Force were eligible to apply for ICAC funding.</p>
Criminal Justice Services	<p>In 2005, the General Assembly transferred the authority to collect school safety audit information from the Department of Education to the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). The DCJS <b>Virginia Center for School Safety</b> (VCSS) is a resource and training center for information and research about national and statewide school safety efforts and reflects Virginia's commitment to providing safe and productive learning environments.</p> <p>The Code mandates that the VCSS develop "a list of items to be included in the school safety audits and shall prescribe a standardized report format for school safety audits." Also, that "each local school board shall require all schools under its control to annually conduct school safety audits."</p> <p>The 2012 General Assembly passed legislation (HB 504, Dance/SB 271, Marsh) requiring the VCSS to provide training on antibullying tactics to public school personnel.</p> <p>Through the VCSS, schools and communities have access to proactive trainings, topical resources, public-private partnerships, data collection and evaluation, and a safety audit program outline.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>Each year, the Virginia Center for School Safety publishes the <i>Virginia School Safety Audit Results</i>. The 2012 report, and past reports, are available at <a href="http://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/common/links.cfm?code=17&amp;program=VCSS">http://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/common/links.cfm?code=17&amp;program=VCSS</a>.</p> <p>To date, VCSS has developed three components to the school safety audit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Virginia School Safety Survey - <i>an annual school safety audit in order to assess school safety conditions</i></li> <li>• Virginia School Crisis Management Plan Review and Certification – <i>annual review of the written school crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plans of each school</i></li> <li>• Virginia Secondary School Climate Survey - <i>information on school climate and safety conditions in order to maintain a safe and orderly school environment conducive to learning; a survey is given to students and teachers in middle and high school grades</i></li> </ul> <p>The Center for School Safety is currently implementing recommendations from the Governor's Task Force on School and Campus Safety.</p>
University of Virginia	<p>The University of Virginia's Curry School of Education's <b>Virginia Youth Violence Project</b> addresses the range of youth violence prevention and school safety issues and provides training and support to schools educators through the Commonwealth. Bullying is included in the project's scope, as are more traditional public safety issues: Violence in the Schools, Threat Assessment, Prevention, and Juvenile Violence.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>A synopsis of the study findings, as well as state and national legislative initiatives, is available at <a href="http://www.youthviolence.edschool.virginia.edu">www.youthviolence.edschool.virginia.edu</a>.</p>

**PUBLIC SAFETY** (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
University of Virginia	<p>The University of Virginia's Curry School of Education's <b>Youth-Nex</b> is a transdisciplinary center promoting healthy youth development, educational attainment and learning. Working across the University, Youth-Nex focuses on the assets of young people and works in a wide variety of areas including health management, civic engagement and education. Youth-Nex also aims to prevent youth problems such as violence, physical and mental health issues, substance abuse and school failure.</p> <p>Youth-Nex programs of research focus on critical areas of youth development, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supportive Relationships</li> <li>• Healthy Lifestyles</li> <li>• Avoiding Risk</li> <li>• Engaged Citizenship</li> </ul> <p>Youth-Nex is supported by a grant from Philip Morris</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Conference Participant</p>	<p>On March 29, 2013, Youth-Nex hosted a session on "Continuous Quality Improvement in Afterschool Settings: Impact Findings from the Youth Program Quality Intervention Study".</p> <p>Youth-Nex will hold its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference in October 2013. Past conference topics include <i>Enhancing the Positive Youth Development Perspective: A Developmental Intervention Science Framework</i> and <i>Bullying Prevention in the Promotion of a Positive School Climate: Effective Principles and Practices</i>.</p> <p>More information can be found at <a href="http://curry.virginia.edu/research/centers/youth-nex">http://curry.virginia.edu/research/centers/youth-nex</a>.</p>

**RE-ENTRY**

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Juvenile Justice	<p>In line with Governor McDonnell's priority of supporting successful re-entry, the Department of Juvenile Justice developed a <b>Four-Year Strategic Plan for Juvenile Justice Re-entry</b>.</p> <p>DJJ identifies the importance of improving outcomes for juvenile offenders released from commitment. In Virginia, approximately one-half of those released from a juvenile correctional center (JCC) in fiscal years 2004-2008 were re-arrested for a new crime within 12 months following release. Approximately 40 percent of those released were convicted of that new offense. At 36 months post-release, reconviction rates exceed 70 percent (for juveniles released in 2005).</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The Four-Year Strategic Plan was adopted in October 2010. The Department adopted the following goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote public safety and juvenile offender accountability;</li> <li>• Ensure juvenile offenders have an individualized plan for re-entry from commitment through release from supervision;</li> <li>• Improve re-entry outcomes by enhancing the service delivery system to become more comprehensive, continuous, and evidence-based;</li> <li>• Improve re-entry outcomes by providing opportunities for progressively increased responsibility and freedom;</li> <li>• Develop and nurture existing partnerships and collaborations to support successful re-entry in the community;</li> <li>• Create an organizational culture that supports risk reduction and re-entry work with juvenile offenders;</li> <li>• Conduct ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the re-entry strategic plan; and</li> <li>• Engage juvenile offenders and families in successful re-entry.</li> </ul> <p>Further information on the Strategic Plan is available at <a href="http://www.djj.virginia.gov">www.djj.virginia.gov</a>.</p>
Juvenile Justice	<p><b>Transitional Planning</b>, which assists with re-entry and protect the public by providing parolees a combination of community supervision, accountability and treatment, and addresses the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Targets factors predictive of reoffending behavior (family/living arrangement, substance abuse, education, mental health, vocational training, employability, peer groups, recreational interests, and leisure time);</li> <li>• Addresses criminogenic factors associated with recidivism;</li> <li>• Identifies appropriate treatment services and supervision needs; and</li> <li>• Addresses transitioning of school, housing, treatment, and employment.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>The plan requires collaboration among the Department of Correctional Education personnel, Juvenile Correctional Centers counselors, referring Parole Officers, re-enrollment coordinators, service providers, parents/ family members, Department of Social Services, and community resources.</p> <p>Regulations governing transition planning for incarcerated juveniles can be found at 6VAC35-180.</p> <p>Further information about the plan is available at <a href="http://www.djj.virginia.gov/Initiatives/TPO.aspx">www.djj.virginia.gov/Initiatives/TPO.aspx</a>.</p>

**RE-ENTRY** *(continued)*

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Secretary of Public Safety	<p>Governor McDonnell has renamed the Virginia Prisoner Re-entry Policy Academy, established pursuant to Executive Order 97 (2009), as the <b>Virginia Prisoner and Juvenile Offender Re-Entry Council</b> to strengthen its mission of promoting re-entry strategies for adult and juvenile offenders.</p> <p>The Secretary of Public Safety chairs the Council. As defined by Executive Order 11 (2010), the Council has the following functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify barriers that exist in each member's department or agency that may impede successful transition of offenders returning to their communities; and develop and implement procedures to overcome such barriers, to include job training, education, housing, and substance abuse treatment.</li> <li>• Improve collaboration and coordination of transitional services, including providing cross-training; sharing information among state agencies; and developing policies, procedures, and programs with well-defined, performance-based outcomes that enhance re-entry management.</li> <li>• Establish partnerships between community colleges and the business sector to promote employment and transitional jobs for released offenders.</li> <li>• Engage local agencies, community-based social service providers, community organizations, faith-based organizations, as well as other stakeholders, in promoting successful re-entry policies and programs.</li> <li>• Submit a status report of actions taken to improve offender transitional and re-entry services to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees no later than December 15 of each year.</li> </ul> <p>The Prisoner Re-entry Coordinator works with the Council to develop a long-term strategic plan for achieving the goal of reducing offender recidivism for those released from incarceration. The plan, which is required to have measurable goals and specific outcome performance measures, will set out comprehensive strategies to be employed while offenders are incarcerated and to continue following their release. Also, the plan will identify methods of improving communication, sharing of information, and collaborating between state and local agencies.</p> <p>Executive Order 11 required the Council and the appropriate workgroups to work collaboratively with the Juvenile Re-entry Advisory Group established by the Virginia Commission on Youth on improving the success and safety of juveniles returning to their community. This Advisory Group completed its work in November 2010.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Delegate Sherwood and Delegate Peace serve as Council Members.</p>	<p>The Governor created the position of Statewide Prisoner Re-entry Coordinator for Virginia. The appointee, announced March 19, 2010, works across secretariats, with state agencies, local and federal partners, as well as faith-based and non-profit organizations, to develop and implement a comprehensive plan for prisoner re-entry in Virginia. The goals encompass youth, as well as adult, offenders.</p> <p>The Council's 2011 meetings focused on reviewing and refining the recommendations offered in 2010. In addition, the Council studied implementation of the four-year strategic plans developed by the Department of Corrections (DOC), Virginia Adult Re-entry Initiative, and Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). The Council's three committees and its workgroups submitted new recommendations and revisions to previous recommendations.</p> <p>The 2012 <i>Status Report on Offender Transitional and Re-Entry Services</i> was published in November of 2012 and focused on Virginia's efforts to improve prisoner re-entry in 2012 through agency collaborations and initiatives. This report is available at <a href="http://www.publicsafety.virginia.gov/Initiatives/Re-Entry/2012ReentryStatusReport.pdf">http://www.publicsafety.virginia.gov/Initiatives/Re-Entry/2012ReentryStatusReport.pdf</a>.</p> <p>Information on the Re-entry Council is available at <a href="http://www.publicsafety.virginia.gov/Initiatives/Re-Entry">www.publicsafety.virginia.gov/Initiatives/Re-Entry</a>.</p>



**RE-ENTRY** *(continued)*

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Secretary of Public Safety	<p>Signed into law on April 9, 2008, the <b>Second Chance Act</b> (P.L. 110-199) aims to improve outcomes for people returning to communities from prisons and jails. This first-of-its-kind legislation authorizes federal grants to government agencies and nonprofit organizations to provide employment assistance, substance abuse treatment, housing, family programming, mentoring, victims support, and other services to help reduce recidivism.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>On September 15, 2010, Governor McDonnell announced \$1.5 million in new funding for Virginia's Comprehensive Prisoner Re-Entry Program. This amount includes \$750,000 in Second Chance funds to support high-risk offenders re-entering their communities. Funds are distributed to six re-entry councils established in Charlottesville, Culpeper, King George, Norfolk, Richmond City and 14 localities in Southwest Virginia. Second Chance funds also supported the creation of the Norfolk Circuit Re-entry Docket, a new re-entry court pilot program.</p> <p>The Verizon Foundation has also supplemented a federal grant which serves female offenders in drug treatment programs from Tazewell, Russell and Buchanan counties. Programs began in October 2010.</p> <p>Also, the Department of Juvenile Justice is partnering with Tidewater Youth Services Commission (TYSC), who will provide services to juvenile offenders. TYSC will provide case management services, intensive supervision and the youth assessment and services instrument. Final approval of the grant was received in January. Services started April 1, 2011; staff have been hired and services will be provided in Virginia Beach and Chesapeake. The OJJDP grant is awarded for three years.</p>

**HUMAN SERVICES**

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
State and Local Agencies Representatives	<p><b>Virginia Association for Local Human Services Officials</b> (VALHSO) is comprised of State and local government officials. Full membership is limited to the single most senior official in a locality who has broad responsibilities for multiple agencies delivering human services. Most members have direct oversight or liaison responsibilities for health, mental health and social services. VALHSO advises state agency heads or members of the General Assembly members on these topics.</p> <p><b>Commission's involvement:</b> Tracking</p>	<p>VALHSO generally meets quarterly; additional meetings are added as needed for specific areas of interest.</p> <p>VALHSO's fall conference was held in Newport News in October 2012.</p>



**VIRGINIA COMMISSION ON YOUTH**

Phone 804-371-2481 • Fax 804-371-0574 • <http://vcoy.virginia.gov> • [coymail@vcoy.virginia.gov](mailto:coymail@vcoy.virginia.gov)